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History of Whitingham.

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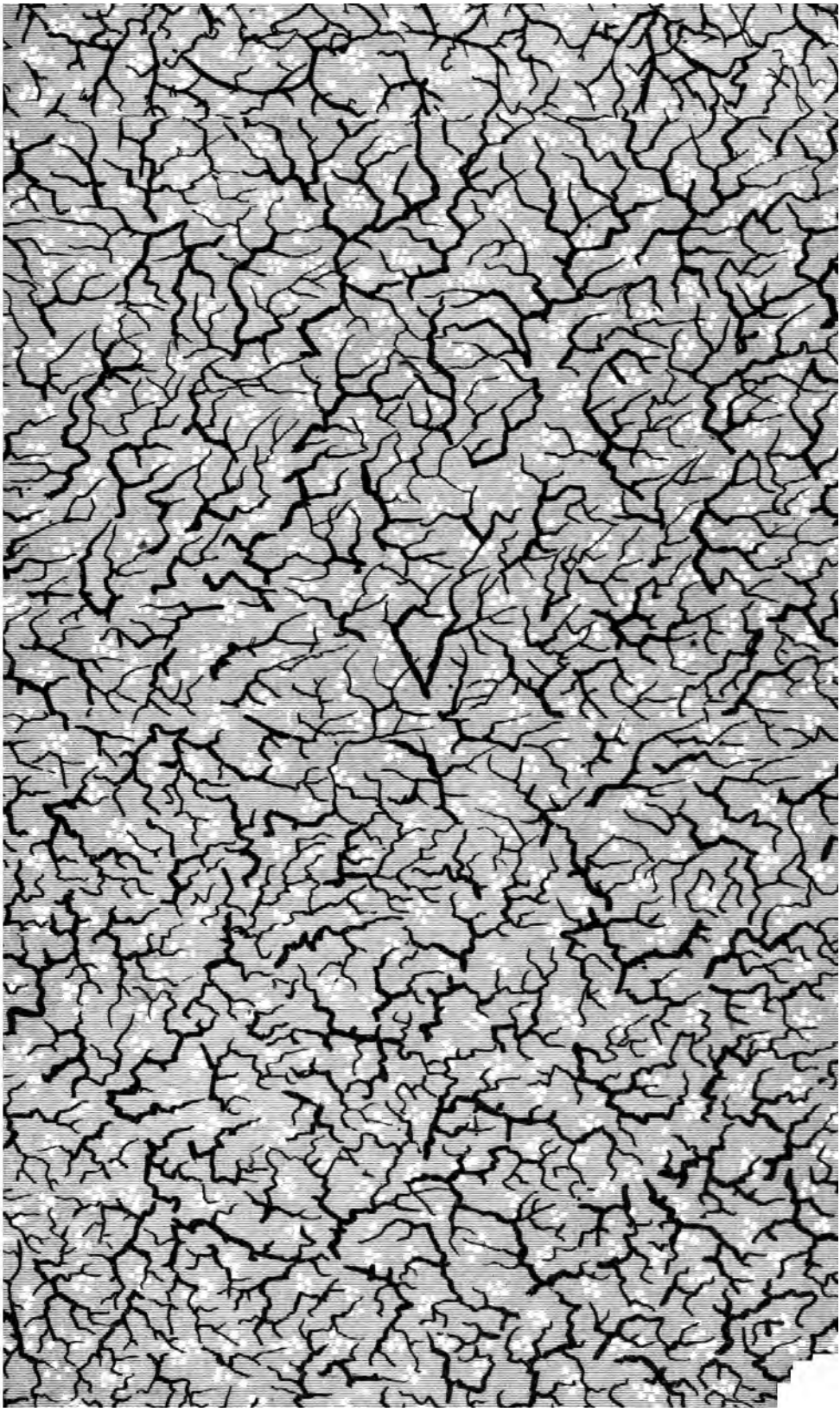


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HISTORY

OF

WHITINGHAM

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

BY

LEONARD BROWN, ESQ.

BRATTLEBORO, VT.:
FRANK E. HOUSH, PUBLISHER.
1886.

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To the People of Whitingham this Work is Respectfully Dedicated.

ERRATA.

Since this book was printed, we have discovered several typographical errors which we wish to correct.

In the Introductory Remarks, 1st page, 13th line from bottom, for "Thence" read Hence.

Same page, 8th line from bottom, for "prepare" read preferred.

Page 36, 2nd line from bottom, for "southwest" read southeast.

Page 55, 4th line from bottom, for "1866" read 1867.

Page 147, 13th line from top, for "1881" read 1818.

Page 219, 5th line from bottom, for "1873" read 1868.

In list of Town Representatives for the year 1861, instead of "Alfred Fuller," read Horatio N. Hix.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

WE have long cherished the idea that the publication of a brief history of the early settlement and progress of Whitingham, as a town, would be a valuable contribution for the benefit of future generations. The longer it is delayed, the more difficult to give an account of those hardy pioneers, that braved the perils, and endured the hardships, incident to all first settlers in a lone wilderness town. The memory of those pioneer settlers, that laid the foundation of organized society, and established the germs of Christian civilization in this almost unbroken forest, should be revered by their descendants and successors.

A large majority of those venerable fathers and mothers, that guided the destinies of this inchoate town for the first decade of organized existence, have passed away, and left no trace of any descendants within our reach. Thence the only clue to their history and characteristics, is what we can glean from the records. Like the first settlers in other towns in the Green Mountain State, they boldly asserted their inherent right to form their own institutions of government, and prepare this isolated wilderness home, where they could be free to form their own social habits and institutions, to the oppressions their fathers had endured in the different colonies of this new world. Knowing as they did, that the territory they inhabited was claimed by two separate and conflicting governments, or provinces of the Crown of England, they acknowledged no allegiance to either, but were in full sympathy with the settlers in other towns in this part of the

State, for establishing an independent government of their own.

We deem it more important in this work to give an outline sketch of the acts and doings of the town, and the men that guided its progress in the early days of its organization, and for the first half of the present century, than for the last thirty years. Most of those living in town now, are familiar with the principal events in its history for that time past. We have endeavored to collect the material facts and incidents important to a true history of the town of Whitingham, and present them in as concise a form as possible without going into details of the prominent founders of our social and literary institutions, who guarded the interests, and guided the destinies of the town in its most prosperous and progressive days.

We shall give a brief sketch of those families that contributed most to progress of Whitingham, in the first half of the present century, and to establish the social, literary, and religious institutions, forming the basis of organized society, and an elevated standard of civilization.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION.

WHITINGHAM is situated in the southwest corner of Windham County, is six miles square, and bounded north by Wilmington, east by Halifax, south by Massachusetts line, and west by Readsboro. The surface, like most of the mountain towns, is uneven and rocky, with many steep and precipitous cliffs and abruptly rising ledges in different localities, that form a most picturesque scenery. The soil is naturally fertile, but in most parts stony, with many large bowlders lying on the surface, on the hills and in the valleys. And according to Professor Hitchcock's geology, the largest bowlder in New England lies in this town. This bowlder lies on a high hill in the southwest part of the town, on the farm known as the "Jonathan Dix farm," and the publisher of the report of the geology of Vermont, Albert D. Hagar, says of this bowlder: "From the character of the rock, corresponding to that of the Green Mountain, (a highly micaceous neiss) we feel sure that this was transported across the valley. Yet its height is 32 feet, its length 40 feet, its horizontal circumference is 125 feet, its cubic contents 40,000 feet, its weight 3400 tons."

The Valley across which this bowlder must have been transported is more than 500 feet deep, between that hill and the summit of the Green Mountain, a few miles west of the Deerfield River. The publisher of this geology further says, "Think of the power requisite in the first place to tear off from the ledge such a gigantic mass, and then to lift it up. and carry across a deep mountain valley, and then plant it

near the highest part of a rocky ridge. It does not seem to have been much rounded, and cannot, therefore, have been subject to mere mechanical or aqueous attrition. Hence we suppose it to have been lifted up bodily and transported—not rolled—along with other fragments, by a *vis a tergo*."

There are many other very large bowlders lying on the surface in different places about the town. One very large, on a high hill, and on a solid ledge of rock, on the farm known as the "Dill Wheeler farm," this, although probably of more than 1500 tons weight, lies on a rounded side in such a manner that it can be moved or rocked with levers. And there are many others, weighing hundreds of tons, lying about in different localities, completely on the surface.

How these huge bowlders were scattered about this mountainous region on the hills and in the valleys, is a question of profound interest to the geological student. Their being found indiscriminately on the hills and in the valleys, would favor the theory, that at some remote period, when this section of the earth was covered by water, they were floated from the mountainous regions of a higher latitude, in vast bodies of ice, and dropped wherever the ice dissolved sufficient to liberate them.

A high elevation extends across the town from north to south near its center; although interspersed with undulations and valleys, it forms in the main, a continuous ridge, with a gradual, but uneven sloping to the valley of the Deerfield on the west, and North River on the east. On the slopes from the center eastward, most of the surface forms a good territory for farming, and with efficient cultivation would be equally as productive as any land in southern Vermont. The western slope is more uneven, and broken by steep hills, but a large proportion of the land is equally as good for farming, as on the eastern slope. The highest point on the centre ridge is about one and one half miles south of the centre of the town, and known as the "Streeter Hill." This hill affords a fine prospect of the surrounding country. The long stretch of lofty peaks on the Green Mountains presents a scenery that would well pay the student of nature for a visit to this eminence. While the Green Mountains

being in closer proximity, can be seen more distinctly, the distant Mountains east of the Connecticut river, may be seen over the hills in Halifax and Guilford, and the varied landscapes on the south and southeast, as far as the eye can reach.

School district No. 1, situated in the southeast corner of the town, taken as a whole, is probably the best farming district of any in town, although there are six or seven farms within its limits—that half a century ago were owned and cultivated by enterprising farmers, having large families of children to school, that are now deserted, and the uninhabited buildings suffered to decay, and most of them entirely demolished. Most of these farms have been divided up, and sold to parties having land adjoining. In our school-boy days there were from sixty to seventy-five scholars to attend school in that district, while now there is less than half that number.

District No 2, comprising the village of Jacksonville, is not a farming district. Although the most populous and wealthy district in town, there are but few good sites for farming purposes. The inhabitants of the village are mostly engaged in other pursuits; but there are some good farms along the western border, one of which is the Peter Holbrook farm, so famous for its sugar orchards. This District contains more than one fifth of the population of the town, and a still greater proportion of the Grand List. It has the best school-house in this part of the county.

Districts No. 3, 4, 5, and 6, situated in the northeast corner, and along the eastern slope from the centre ridge, west of the Holbrook and Tippet hills, cover the greatest stretch of unbroken farming territory of any place in the whole town. And the inhabitants of these four districts are almost exclusively engaged in farming. The section of the town comprising these four districts is the first quality of farming land, and half a century since, in the days of our Fathers and Grandfathers, was as productive as any lands in this section of New England. Although many of the farms have been neglected and suffered to deteriorate in productive power, their present owners, with just encouragement, might soon

renovate, and make them produce an ample surplus for the labor bestowed.

THE EASTERN STREAMS.

North river, although now comparatively small, evidently was once a powerful stream. Along its banks below, and in the village of Jacksonville, from ten to fifteen feet above its present bed, may be found just below the surface, a bed of cobble stones, worn and rounded as if by aqueous attrition, of various sizes from small pebbles to considerable sized bowlders; making it unmistakably evident that these cobbles once formed a part of the bed of the river. And as the river gradually narrowed down, the soil accumulated over its rocky bed, till at length it reached its present diminutive size. There is still more conclusive evidence in the formation of the mound-like elevations on lands of B. F. Roberts, and Mrs. Carley, on the flat below the village, rising some fifteen or twenty feet above the surrounding meadow, made up entirely of rounded stones and gravel, with an occasional glade of fine sand; that must have been washed up by some eddy or curve in the river, and the water must have been as high as their summits. This being so, where the main part of the village is now built, must at that time have been at least ten feet under water.

The deep cut channel in the ledge of rock below Putnam's Mill, shows it to have been the work of centuries. The high hills on either side of the flat where the mill pond now is, and the flat land above it, show at once that this immense stream of water was forced through this narrow gorge to a broader space below. And millions of the rounded stones on the flats below that gorge, were unquestionably washed down through that channel, which helped to wear down the channel as well as to round and smooth their own surface by aqueous attrition. There is another ledgy channel through which a branch of this river came down from the meadow below the Corkins Mill, forming a cascade near the Ruel

Willis place, where there was once a grist-mill, built and run by Col. Isaac Martin ; a part of the dam still remains.

A large meadow, covering more than twenty acres, was once flowed by the natural formation of the land, and a slight dam near the Corkins Mill site, will now flow the same. This branch of the river takes rise from several little rivulets from the surrounding hills above this meadow. There is a natural pond a short distance west of this meadow, covering from ten to fifteen acres, and known as the "Roberts Pond." The water in this pond is remarkably clear, and some places very deep ; and is apparently fed by springs under the surface from the surrounding hills, there being no stream of any importance running into it. This pond has changed but very little, if any, in size and appearance for the last half century ; it is mostly surrounded by steep, high banks, a small stream running from it at the south end to the Putnam mill pond. This pond was formerly a favorite resort for fishing ; abounding with salmon trout, that was readily caught by astute anglers in large quantities.

There is a little stream running from Wilmington down by the Roberts place, and into the Putnam Pond. There is another stream taking its rise from what was once called the "Beaver Dam," but later known as the "Fuller Pond," that has signs of having once been a powerful stream. Tradition has it, that this pond, once covering twenty or thirty acres, was originally formed by a dam at the south end, built by beavers, in such a manner that the water would flow from both ends alike, each being exactly the same elevation ; that running north finding its way into Deerfield river just north of Wilmington line, and that running south forming a junction with North river at the tannery in Jacksonville. This branch, although now but a small brook, has the appearance, from the deep worn and rocky gorge between the steep hills along its banks, most of the way from the outlet of the pond that once covered a large surface, to Jacksonville, of once being a rapid and powerful stream.

Two or three other considerable sized streams from off the eastern slope from the centre ridge, empty into North river below the tannery in Jacksonville. That running in at the

Jillson place in the lower part of the village, takes its rise from the swamps and hills above the P. H. Pierce meadow, and from the deep and narrow outlet from the meadow, and the worn and precipitous gorge from thence down to the river, indicate that immense quantities of the rounded cobble stones found along the banks of the river below, were washed from lands above the narrow outlet of the Pierce meadow, down through this rough and rocky gorge in the remote past, and found their present location by the drift agency. Still lower down the river, another branch formerly called the "Joe Coleman Brook," runs into North river below the E. J. Corkins Mill. This stream takes its rise from the wet lands and numerous little streams from the eastern slope, mainly in School District No. 5, and furnishes water-power for Peter Holbrook's shop, and Jonathan Sprague's saw-mill. In places below the Sprague mill the fall is very rapid, forming picturesque cascades. Its channel is deep and rough, and the abruptly rising hills from its banks on either side afford no land for cultivation till it comes very near the river.

There is an important stream running through the southeast part of the town, formerly known as "The Branch," and empties into North river in the town of Halifax. This stream takes its rise in School District No. 6, mainly at a place formerly known as "The Old Meadow," and furnishes water power for Albert M. V. Hagar's saw-mill and chair shop. Something over fifty years ago, Levi Sumner built a saw-mill on this stream, about a mile below the Hagar mill, and quite an extensive lumbering business was done there for several years. This mill was on the Levi Sumner farm, later known as the "Luther Gale place." There is another stream taking its rise nearer the top of the central ridge in the south part of the town, from the swamps and little brooks in that section, and runs south into Massachusetts, furnishing water for driving Aldis Brown's saw-mill and shop. These are the principal streams in the eastern section of the town; but besides, there are many other little brooks that half a century ago were quite important streams. In our schoolboy days there were several brooks in School District No. 1,

that furnished fine resorts for fishing, and many noble strings of trout were taken from the brooks where now scarce a sign of any brook appears.

On the western slope, there are not as many streams as run eastward; but in the District called No. 9, there is quite an important stream that formerly furnished the water power for the Green's saw-mill, that was for many years an important industrial centre for that section, for a large portion of the year. There are other small streams taking their rise in the western slope from the "Streeter Hill," running west and southwest, finding their way to the Deerfield river. The "Toby Brook," in the southwest part of the town, is a very rapid stream, running west over a rough rocky bottom, and finds its way into the Deerfield in the town of Readsboro.

The brook running from the north end of Sadawga pond, with its numerous little tributaries, is the most important stream on the western slope. This runs through the village of Sadawga, and furnishes water power for the numerous mills, shops, and manufacturing establishments in that village, and on the stream between the village and Deerfield river. The fall is so rapid through the village and below, that ample power for all the mills and shops may be secured at very little expense. There are immense quantities of lumber got out annually at the saw-mills of J. W. Sawyer, O. B. Wheeler, and A. J. Hull, besides the production of the other shops, including Albee's, Brown's, Baker's, and the grist-mill and box shop of Z. Wheeler. All these shops and mills are now in successful operation.

There are no mill streams on the western slope in the northwest quarter of the town, or any mills of any description in that quarter. There was once a saw-mill of some importance in the valley half a mile north of the old centre village, on the brook running from the wet lands west of the old Goodnow farm, to the Sadawga village. But the mill has long since been demolished, and the brook in that locality is nearly dried up.

HILLS AND CLIFFS.

The high and precipitous hills on both sides of North river, below the village of Jacksonville, render the scenery a profitable theme for contemplation to the observing geologist, the steep and ledgy cliffs on the east, known as "The Hosley Hill," in places presenting perpendicular rocks 20 or 25 feet high for several rods in length, the formation of which is a subject of profound thought. The irregular order in which these huge masses of rock are found, is evidence of an internal commotion in that locality altogether beyond the power of human comprehension. The still more lofty, but less precipitous hills on the west, rise in rapid but nearly even ascent directly from the banks of the river, and are called "The Holbrook and Tippet Hills." These hills, although ledgy, form quite a contrast with the many perpendicular cliffs on the other side of the river. They are of little value either for timber or for farming purposes; but flocks and herds can graze their sides, or even ascend to their summits. And on the steeps of these sides they find some cool retreats to shield them from the scorching suns of summer.

The former of these hills is part of the Peter Holbrook farm, naturally rough and stony, but by the industry, indomitable energy and perseverance of its owner, has been converted into a very convenient and productive farm. He has built a large and convenient barn on the premises, also a large shop with quite a good water power, supplied mainly from a natural pond a short distance above. This latter building is built of stone, taken from the surrounding fields, for the double purpose of clearing off the fields and furnishing material for the massive walls of his shop. This building furnishes a true index to the general characteristics of the man, and involves an amount of labor that no other man in this town would think of undertaking. For the first ten or fifteen years after he bought that farm, he undoubtedly per-

formed more hard work, than any other man in Whitingham ever did, in the same length of time. Possessing by nature a good mechanical genius, he could readily construct anything he desired, and seldom employed any help outside his own family.

These are the only high and precipitous hills in the eastern section, but there are many ledgy cliffs of lesser altitude in different localities ; one near the schoolhouse in District No. 1., another in the northeast corner of the town east of the Roberts place, and some others. The hills in the western section, though there are many steep and cliffy ledges, are not as high and precipitous as those rising from the banks of North river. "The Streeter Hill," towering above all the rest, is not so steep and ledgy as some others. It slopes off to the west and southwest towards "Lime Hollow," where some sharp rocky bluffs may be found to the east of that District. The hill west of District No. 9, where the famous bowlder lies, is quite a lofty eminence, and its western descent towards Deerfield river, is rough and precipitous. Then the high hill on the Deliverance Wheeler farm, in its western descent towards the Deerfield, abounds in ledgy bluffs and precipitous rocks, down to the level with the interval land on the bank of the river. From the river westward to the west line of the town, the hills are very steep most of the way, and south of the Davis place. near where the town line crosses the river, the hills from the west bank are rough and precipitous.

ROADS AS ONCE TRAVELED.

The last sixty years have witnessed more material changes in roads, than almost anything else in the map of the town. At that time there was no road up and down North river, from Coleman's Mill, now the E. J. Corkins place, nor was there any road from the river to the S. D. Faulkner place, except to go from there down by the Captain Plumb, now Thomas Smith place. in Halifax to the river, and thence up

the river to the mill. From the vicinity of the James Roberts place to Coleman's Mill, which was the only place to get grinding in the eastern part of the town, the only road as then traveled, was from the mill up the hill to the E. S. Allen place, thence to the Samuel Hosley, now the Frank Putnam place, thence across by Patrick Peebles, (buildings long since demolished) to the Corkins, late Foster G. Crown place, and down to Col. Isaac Martin's, now the Willis place, thence across north by the R. D. Brown place, in nearly a straight line, to the old Captain Allen place, next east of the James Roberts place. This was the main traveled road to Marlboro and Brattleboro, for many years since our own recollection.

From the centre of the town east, the road went down by the Samuel Chase, now the Hiram Plumb place, and so on by the Peter Holbrook place, and down the hill to Coleman's, and from there to Marlboro and Brattleboro, over the road above described. From the centre of the town to Coleraine and Greenfield, the main traveled road was by the late Asa Green place eastward by the old Hezekiah Whitney place, to the Seymour Houghton place ; thence east nearly as the road is now traveled, by the old Samuel Goodnow place in Halifax, and so down over the Panel Hill, to Coleraine. After the Burrington hill road was built, from School District No. 6, to the centre of the town as now traveled, that took the main travel to Coleraine and Franklin County, Mass., down through North Heath.

There has not been such material alteration in the location of the roads as first traveled, in the western section of the town, as in the eastern. But there have been many alterations, and new roads built, but the principal traveled roads are nearly as they were fifty years ago.

SADAWGA POND

situated nearly a mile west of the centre ridge, formerly covered an area of more than a square mile ; but for sixty

years, or since the recollection of the oldest of our town's people, it has been gradually diminishing, in the extent of its water surface. Large tracts of meadow land on its western and southwestern border, half a century ago, was a part of the water surface, without a sign of any vegetation, except possibly a few water lilies lifting their drooping heads above the surface of the water. This land surface was slowly formed by vegetable shrubs and grasses taking root and germinating in the soft mud or scum, where the receding water, in the dry season of the year, had left the surface bare. These shrubs and grasses rooted together during the dry season, and formed a surface sufficiently tenacious to float above the water in the wet season. And year by year gained strength and increase of surface inward, towards the central and deeper waters. The surface land thus formed, used to be called "the swimming land," and it gradually thickened and grew more firm as the surface increased, till at length it became a solid meadow bottom. Hundreds of acres of this once water surface, now form a meadow sufficiently solid to drive over. This pond is the main source of water power for the mills and shops in the village below, as already noted.

The hills west and southwest of this pond, and the southwest quarter of the town, abound with limestone, that in former years was extensively manufactured into lime, and for more than twenty years from 1825, formed no inconsiderable part of the industrial and commercial interests of the town of Whitingham. Thousands of tierces were annually manufactured and transported to Franklin and Hampshire Counties, Mass., where a ready market was found But better facilities for the manufacture and freight from other points on the Green Mountains, made the business in this town less profitable, till it is now almost entirely abandoned. And the failure of the lime trade was a serious blow to the commercial interests of the centre village on the hill. The making of lime, and the lumbering business at Green's sawmill, was no small share of the industry, and source of income, for a large share of the inhabitants of that part of the town.

The northwest quarter of the town, from the height of the

central ridge to the valley of the Deerfield, is by no means an even slope, but there are many good farms, and some of the best and wealthiest farmers in town live in that quarter. These lands were covered by a heavy growth of native timber, notwithstanding their exposure to the bleak and cutting winds of Vermont winters. A few farms near the bank of the Deerfield river, in the northwest part of the town, are happily protected from these fierce blasts by the surrounding hills, and afford a delightful contrast in these bleak winters, with some of the hill farms. The Rev. Ebenezer Davis spent his long life on one of these farms.

From the valley of the Deerfield west, although the hills are steep, and in some places almost impossible to climb, there are some very attractive farms located on these sunny eastern slopes, between the steeper hills, with a rich and productive soil, and furnish pleasant and comfortable homes for their enterprising owners. These hills were originally covered with a heavy growth of timber, large proportions being sugar maple. And since the native forests were cut off, a second growth of maples have sprung up along the margin of the highways, and about the hillside pastures, that now furnish some of the finest sugar orchards to be found. There are plenty of springs of pure water gushing from these hillsides, that trickle down their rocky channels in little rivulets, to find their way to the Deerfield river.

On the east side of the river, between the Davis Bridge and Readsboro line, there is a wide interval of excellent farming land, formerly known as the "Blanchard District," from the fact, that a sufficient number of families by that name, resided in that vicinity, to form an entire School District. A few fine farms may be found near the river in the vicinity of the bridge, called the "Parson's Bridge," near the southwest corner of the town. The famous "Lead and Silver Mine" (of which we shall give a more definite account in another place)is located in this section, in the hills east of the river. This locality has for a long time been known as "Lime Hollow," from the fact that the hills in that vicinity abounded with limestone of a superior quality; and in the days of the lime trade in Whitingham, was more

extensively manufactured than at any other place in town. John Parsons, Benjamin Battles, and some others in that vicinity, were almost exclusively engaged in that business for many years ; furnishing employment for many of the working men, besides materially aiding the commercial interests of the centre village, in the days of its prosperity. Although Mr. Battles lived across the line in the town of Readsboro, his business was nearly all in this town, and he and Parsons were the largest wholesale lime dealers of that age.

At the present time there is a large saw-mill and shop for the manufacture of hard and soft wood timber into different kinds of work, owned and run by Lucius Plumb. This mill is now probably doing a larger business in the getting out of lumber of various kinds than any other mill in town. The Newton Railroad from Readsboro to the tunnel road, will undoubtedly be of material benefit to that particular section, by affording easier transportation to market for the surplus productions of any kind that the people in that immediate vicinity have to sell.

CHARTER AND EARLY SETTLEMENT.

IT is difficult to determine, with absolute certainty, who the first permanent settlers in this wilderness town were; but it is evident from the records, and what we have been able to learn, that Robert Bratten, John and Silas Hamilton, Thomas Stearns, Eliphalet Hyde, John Butler, James Angel, Amos and Nathan Green, Bunijah Lanphear, Singleton Williams, Jabez Foster, James Roberts, Leonard Pike, and Nathaniel Davis, were amongst the first that settled in the limits of Whitingham for a permanent home. By a census in 1771, Whitingham, then called Cumberland, had 14 inhabitants, and 4 heads of families. James Angel, Robert Bratten, Silas Hamilton, and Bunijah Lanphear, were amongst the first settlers, and some of them might have been reckoned in that census, but we find no reliable authority to that effect.

We have been told by Rev. Ebenezer Davis, Col. Obed Foster, and Alfred Green, that they had learned from their fathers, who were amongst the first settlers, and spent their whole lives in Whitingham, that the first opening in the forests of what is now the town of Whitingham, was made on the hill, on or near the old Hezekiah Whitney farm, west of the Seymour Houghton place. According to their story, two men came up there from Massachusetts, and cleared three or four acres as early as 1765 or 1766; one or both their names they thought was Bolton. It was said they spent two successive summers there; lived chiefly by hunting and trapping, and returned to Massachusetts to spend the winter.

They designed to make this place a permanent home, but one of the men died in the winter following the second summer spent there, and the other then abandoned the idea of making his home there, and did not return.

We here give a lengthy extract from Hon. Clark Jillson's Centennial address of 1880, that the reader may have the benefit of his historical research, and his theory of the Charter of the town of Whitingham by the authority of the province of New York, on the 12th day of March, 1770; which he says in another part of his address, "is now the charter of this town, recognized by the State and in full force." He further says: "Its provisions were violated when the town was organized, and have been every year since. It ought to be amended at the next session of the legislature, and made to conform to the present methods of transacting public business."

AN HISTORICAL ADDRESS,

DELIVERED BY

HON CLARK JILLSON.

OF WORCESTER, MASS.,

On the occasion of the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the organization of the town of Whitingham, Wednesday, August 18, 1880.

The last tick of a century has been recorded and a new book opened to receive the annals of another hundred years. Recognizing the beckoning hand of our *Alma Mater*, we come to-day up to

"The places our infancy knew,"

inspired with the homage due to past generations.

Away from the strife of business, outside the limits and beyond the jurisdiction of the city code; where three or more persons can assemble without danger of being treated as a mob; where the quiet of the Sabbath day remains unbroken for a generation; where the solemn splendor of an

August afternoon will not be disturbed for a century to come; among these everlasting hills, where the sublimities of Nature are too near to be worshiped, we come to place upon perpetual record our respect for the memory of the pioneer settlers of our native town.

I propose on this occasion to call your attention to such historical facts relating to Whitingham as I have been able to glean from authentic sources, hoping that some person better qualified than myself will take the time hereafter to complete what must of necessity be but poorly presented in a single address.

Samuel de Champlain, a French navigator, the founder of Quebec, discovered the territory since called Vermont, in 1609, more than a century after the Queen of Spain had bartered the jewels of her own crown of Castile to furnish means for an adventurer to cross an unknown sea, carrying the germ of civilization among the savage tribes of a new world. The lingering decades of another hundred years wove their fantastic cycles into the checkered web of Time before the pioneer's axe had blazed the forests of the Green Mountain State.

The first settlement was made near Brattleboro in 1724, and Fort Dummer was then and there erected for protection and defence. This historical structure has been permitted to perish in a land of civilization, and to-day the spot where it stood bears no trace of early times. Vandal hands have been busy in this locality for more than a century, and now that the spot where the little garrison was planted presents a surface in conformity with modern improvements, the demon of destruction has been transferred to the "city of the dead," where mutilated art pleads for protection among the desecrated graves of your kindred and mine.

The first settlement made west of the mountains was in 1731, when the French erected their fortress at Crown Point, and at the same time commenced a settlement east of the lake, in what is now the town of Addison. They were obliged to flee before the Indians, and up to 1760 no permanent settlement had been made on the territory of Vermont, except that within the present county of Windham. On the

third day of November, 1741, Benning Wentworth was made Governor of the Province of New Hampshire, and on the 17th day of November, 1749, a contest arose between him and Governor Clinton of New York, in relation to the boundary of their respective states, Wentworth claiming that New Hampshire was bounded on the west by a line running north and south, 20 miles east of the Hudson river, and Clinton being equally sure that the eastern boundary of New York was by the Connecticut river. Both these governors and the people they represented proposed to absorb the territory of Vermont, and therefore a method was conceived and adopted to produce this result. This plan was to grant townships of land upon application, and the payment of sums of money sufficient to secure an interest worth contending for in case either New Hampshire or New York should attempt to assume absolute control. Under this arrangement Gov. Wentworth took a bold stand, granting his first township on the 3d day of January, 1749, locating it 40 miles west of the line between New Hampshire and New York, as claimed by Gov. Clinton ; and he also remembered the name his mother gave him when he applied to this tract of land the name of Bennington. The controversy between these States lasted more than forty years, during the latter part of which the inhabitants residing on disputed territory, then known as the "New Hampshire Grants," declared in convention at Westminster on the 15th day of January, 1777, that they were a separate, free and independent jurisdiction or State, by the name of New Connecticut. On the 4th day of June of the same year, in convention at Windsor, this name was abandoned and Vermont substituted.

On the 16th day of August, 1777, the battle of Bennington was fought and won in behalf of a state that had defied the whole world by its declaration of independence, and was still outside of the American Union. This State was admitted with a free constitution and without a slave, on the 4th of March, 1791, it being the first to join the original thirteen. The first division of Vermont into counties occurred July 3d, 1776, the same being established by the Legislature of the Province of New York. The southwestern part of

the State was annexed to the county of Albany; the northwestern was erected into a county called Charlotte; the southeastern was called Cumberland, in honor of Prince William Augustus, the Duke of Cumberland; and the northeastern was called Gloucester. On the 26th of June, 1767, this act of the Legislature of New York was declared void by the king; but upon application being duly made for a new charter, Cumberland county was re-established by the king, March 19, 1768, by letters patent, under the great seal of the Province of New York. On the 24th of March, 1772, the Legislature of New York changed the boundaries, and on the first day of April, 1775, still another change was made. For several years after this date the attention of England was called to other matters and Vermont surveyed its own territory from that day to this. At the first session of the General Assembly of Vermont, March 17, 1778, the State was divided into two counties, Bennington and Unity; and on the 21st day of the same month Unity was changed to Cumberland.

In the month of February, 1781, Windham county was established substantially as it now exists, and the name of Cumberland, by which it had been chartered and known by two governments for a period of fifteen years, was abandoned. There has been some confusion among historians in relation to a tract of land called Cumberland township, and it has generally been claimed that this territory was identical with the town of Whitingham, but such is not the case. It was a large tract of land without any definite boundaries, probably called Cumberland because it was a part of Cumberland county. The fact that seventy applications were made in 1767 for grants in the so-called township of Cumberland, shows that it was then understood to cover more than a single township.

It has been claimed that Whitingham was granted, erected into a town and chartered, under the name of Cumberland, by New Hampshire; and that the name was changed to Whitingham about the time the town was organized in 1780. The original charter has been heard from several times. I was told by one person that an individual in Troy, N. Y.,

had it in his possession. Another said that it was found among some waste paper in Concord, N. H., and still held by a private person in that city. All these statements are false. The town of Whitingham was duly chartered by New York, Monday, March 12, 1770, but was never chartered by any other authority. Let us verify these innovations of history by resorting to the record.

On the 26th day of January, 1770, Col. Nathan Whiting, for himself and his associates, petitioned the commander-in-chief of the Province of New York for a grant of land on the west side of Connecticut river, stating in said petition that said lands, "though part of the lands formerly claimed by the government of New Hampshire, have *not* been granted by that government, but still remain vacant and vested in the Crown." He also prayed that the seven thousand acres of vacant land, together with other tracts contiguous thereto, formerly granted to other officers, might be erected into a township. This land was part of a tract called Cumberland, but no township covering the same had been granted or chartered by that name. It appears that this petition, or one of a similar character, was first made on the seventh day of January, 1767, and referred to a committee of His Majesty's council. This committee made a favorable report, and the council ordered the patent to issue; but for some reason it was delayed till the thirty-first day of January, 1770, when the petition was renewed, praying that the grant called for, with other lands, might be erected into a township by the name of "Whitingham," with the usual privileges. Upon this petition letters patent were ordered to issue, and the same were issued March 12, 1770.

This charter is one of the most elaborate sort, commencing as follows: "George the Third, by the grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland king, Defender of the Faith," and so forth. "To all whom these presents come, Greeting: Whereas our loving subjects, Nathan Whiting," &c. Here follow the names of the original petitioners in 1767, with the petition fully set forth, together with the action taken thereon; also the renewal of the petition on the 31st day of January, 1770, stating that a survey had been

made and praying that the land covered by the petition, with other lands, might be erected into a township by the name of Whitingham, with the usual privileges, etc. The boundaries are then detailed at length, between the lands prayed for by Whiting and his associates, and lands previously granted.

The charter reads: "And in setting out the said tract of six thousand nine hundred acres of land, our commissioners have had regard to the profitable and unprofitable acres, and have taken care that the length thereof doth not extend along the banks of any river otherwise than is conformable to our said royal instructions." Fearing or hoping that there might be precious metals in this region, the following reservation was carefully made: "All mines of gold and silver, and also all white or other sorts of pine trees fit for masts, of the growth of 24 inches diameter and upward at twelve inches from the earth, for masts of the royal navy of us, our heirs and successors."

The grantees, their heirs and assigns, were to hold these lands "as tenants in common, and not as joint tenants." They were to pay rents forever under the following provision: "Yielding, rendering, and paying therefor, yearly and every year forever, unto us, our heirs and successors, at our custom house in our city of New York, unto our or their collector or receiver general therefor, the time being on the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, commonly called Lady Day, the yearly rent of two shillings and six pence sterling for each and every hundred acres of the above granted lands, and so in proportion for any lesser quantity thereof." The township is then chartered as follows:

"And we being willing according to the prayer of the said petitioners, to create and make the said tract of land hereby granted a township, with such other of the adjacent lands as are included and comprehended within the bounds and limits following, that is to say, beginning at a hemlock tree and a beech tree growing close together, having two large stones laid between them, standing in the line run for the bounds of the province of the Massachusetts Bay, and

which beech tree is marked with these words: 'The corner of Cumberland,' and runs thence north, ten degrees east, six miles; then north, eighty degrees west, six miles; then south, ten degrees west, six miles to the aforesaid line run for the bounds of the province of the Massachusetts Bay; and then along the said line south, ten degrees east, six miles, to the said place of beginning; and to grant to the inhabitants of the same such powers and privileges as the inhabitants of other townships in our said province of New York have and do enjoy. Know ye therefore that of our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, we do by these presents create, erect and constitute the said tract of land hereby granted, and all other the lands included within the bounds and limits last mentioned, and every part and parcel thereof, one township, forever hereafter to be, continue and remain, and by the name of *Whitingham* forever hereafter to be called and known; and for the better and more easily carrying on and managing the public affairs and business of the said township, our royal will and pleasure, we do hereby for us, our heirs and successors, give and grant to the inhabitants of the said township all the powers, authorities privileges and advantages heretofore given and granted, or legally enjoyed by all, any or either our other townships within our said province; and we also ordain and establish that there shall be forever hereafter in the said township two assessors, one treasurer, two overseers of the highways, two overseers of the poor, one collector and four constables, elected and chosen out of the inhabitants of the said township yearly, and every year, on the first Tuesday in May, at the most public place in the said township, by the majority of the freeholders thereof then and there met and assembled for that purpose; hereby declaring that wheresoever the first election in the said township shall be held, the future elections shall forever thereafter be held in the same place, as near as may be."

Provision is made for filling vacancies, and the tenure of office of the several officers is established; also the manner of calling town meetings. Provision is also made that a settlement amounting to at least one family for every thousand

acres must be made within three years, and three acres for every fifty granted must be effectually cultivated within three years, or the grant is to be void. The grant is also made void if any one of the grantees cut down or destroy a "reserved" pine tree. The question might be raised as to who would be a witness against his neighbor if he knew it would result in the reversion of his farm.

This elaborate document closes in the following manner: "In testimony whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent, and the great seal of our said Province of New York to be hereunto affixed. Witness our said trusty and well-beloved Cadwallader Colden, Esq., our said Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-chief of our said Province of New York, and the territories depending thereon, in America, at our Fort in our city of New York, the twelfth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand, seven hundred and seventy, and of our reign the tenth."

It is thus made clear that this town was created, erected and chartered by the State of New York, without intruding upon any other charter or grant; and on the 12th day of March, 1770, it was, with the restrictions I have alluded to, the property of the following named persons:

GRANTEES.	DATE OF GRANT.	NO. OF ACRES.
James Edrington,	Oct. 22, 1766,	2,000
John Norbergh,	Dec. 5, 1766,	2,000
Thomas Etherington.	Dec. 8, 1766,	1,000
Thomas Gamble,	Feb. 8, 1770,	2,000
Dennis Carleton,	Feb. 9, 1770,	2,000
John Walker,	Feb. 9, 1770,	3,000
Nathan Whiting,	Mar. 12, 1770.	3,000
Nathan Whiting, *et als.*		
Samuel Fitch,		
Eleazer Fitch.		
James Smedley,	Mar. 12, 1770.	6,900
Andrew Myers,		
Robert Alton,		
Samuel Boyer.		
	Total	21,900

We make this liberal extract to show the tenure of the Address at the celebration of August 18, 1880, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the organization of the town of Whitingham. The charter of the town by the authorities of the province of New York, is undoubtedly the only charter that was ever made of this town, and the principal conditions of this charter were not complied with, hence it was void by its own stipulations, and remained a dead letter in the secretary's office of New York for more than a century, before any of the people of Whitingham ever knew that such a charter was made. Most of the towns in the County of Windham, were chartered by the Government of the province of New Hampshire ; and it may not be out of place here to refer to the charter of other towns in the county, and the first permanent settlement by the English people.

The first permanent settlement by the English race, in what is now the state of Vermont, was in 1724. They settled near the bank of the Connecticut river, in the southeast part of what is now the town of Brattleboro, and built a fort called "Fort Dummer." These pioneers located themselves on both sides of the river, some of them in Hinsdale, N. H. They came principally from Massachusetts Bay. And for sixteen years there was a controversy between the authorities of Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire, about the jurisdiction over this territory on which these settlers had located. Finally on the fifth day of March, 1740, George II., King of England, decreed the line between the province of New Hampshire, and Massachusetts Bay, should be surveyed, and according to special instructions it was surveyed in 1741, by Richard Hazon, and found to leave Hinsdale and Fort Dummer, to the north of the line. Whereupon the King recommended the provincial assembly of New Hampshire, to care for, and protect the settlers about Fort Dummer ; where Mr. Jillson in his centennial address says, " Vandal hands have been busy in this locality for more than a century, and now that the spot where the little garrison was planted presents a surface in conformity with modern improvements, the demon of destruction has been transferred to the ' city of the dead,' where mutilated art pleads protection among the

desecrated graves of your kindred and mine."

We are slow to believe that any part of the County of Windham, "for more than a century" has contained a race of vandals, that would desecrate the graves of their kindred.

From the recommendation of the Crown of England, to the provincial assembly of New Hampshire, to protect the settlers north of the line between that province and Massachusetts Bay, Governor Benning Wentworth of New Hampshire, very naturally supposed the King recognized the jurisdiction of New Hampshire as extending to the same point west, as that of Massachusetts Bay, a point twenty miles east of the Hudson river. And acting upon that supposition, chartered a township six miles square, Jan. 3, 1749, in what he supposed to be the southwest corner of New Hampshire. This town was named Bennington, in honor of Gov. Benning Wentworth. So it appears that Brattleboro was the first place settled by the English, and Bennington the first town chartered, within the limits of Vermont.

Halifax was the first town chartered in the County of Windham. This charter bears date, May 11, 1750. Then follows Wilmington, April 25, 1751; Marlboro, April 29, 1751; Westminster, Nov. 9, 1752; Rockingham, Dec. 28, 1752; Newfane, June 19, 1753; Townshend, June 20, 1753; Vernon, Sept. 5, 1753; Dummerston, Dec. 23, 1753, and was re-chartered by Gov. Tryon in 1766; Brattleboro and Putney, Dec. 23, 1753; Guilford, April 2, 1754; Grafton, April 6, 1754; Londonderry, Feb. 20, 1770; Athens, May, 2, 1780; Wardsboro, Nov. 7, 1780; and divided into two sections, North and South Wardsboro; and in 1810, the south part was incorporated as the town of Dover. Jamaica was chartered Nov. 27, 1780; Brookline was set from Newfane and Putney, and organized March 5, 1795; but according to the Newfane history was not represented in the legislature till 1823.

When the French and Indian war broke out, the Connecticut river valley, and Lake Champlain, were the most natural highways for the marauding parties of both armies; and to the usual dangers and hardships of pioneer life in those towns in the valley of the Connecticut, were added the ter-

ror of Indian massacre or captivity. The result was, the orignal proprietors in many of these towns never complied with the terms of their charter, and at the close of the war in 1760, new charters were issued to different proprietors. The demand for unappropriated lands at that time was so great that Gov. Wentworth chartered more than 60 towns west of the Connecticut river in 1761.

At that time Whitingham had not been chartered. But on the 12th day of March, 1770, a charter was granted by the authorities of the province of New York, to officers of the royal army, as a reward for their loyalty to the English Crown, and their services in his cause. But the terms of the charter were not complied with, and consequentlyit was void by its own stipulations, as the following facts clearly show. In that charter it is expressly stipulated, "that a settlement amounting to at least *one* family for every one thousand acres, must be made within three years ; and three acres for every fifty granted, must be effectually cultivated within three years ; or the grant is to be void." The grants in that charter, to the different persons named therein, amounted to 21,900 acres. And no one has ever even pretended that 21 families had settled in Whitingham, or that 1314 acres were effectually cultivated, as early as the 12th of March 1773. In many other respects the conditions of the charter have never been complied with.

And besides this, the charter was issued in express violation of the decrees and orders of the King in council, as we find by recurring to the early history of Vermont. On the third day of July, 1766, the colonial assembly of the province of New York, passed an act, erecting a portion of the territory covered by the New Hampshire grants, into a new County by the name of Cumberland ; and made provision for building therein, a Court-house and Jail, to be located at Chester. But in consequence of the representation of Mr. Robinson, an agent sent to the Court of England, to present to the King the grievances of the settlers on the New Hampshire grants, His Majesty in council on the 26th day of June, 1767, saw fit to issue an order annuling the action of the provincial legislature of New York ; and on the 24th of July

following, another special order was obtained from the King, prohibiting the Governor of New York, on pain of His Majesty's highest displeasure, from making any further grants of the lands in question, till His Majesty's further pleasure should be made known concerning the same. (See Thompson's History of Vermont, Part II, pages 19—20.)

But notwithstanding the annuling of this act by the King, and the order of prohibition of the 24th of July, the Governor of New York persisted in making grants and prosecuting his designs. On the second day of December, 1767, he had official notice of the King's orders, but paid no attention to them, but continued making grants in violation thereof. And on the 20th day of February, 1768, by the advice of the Governor and his Attorney General, they re-passed the act annuled by the King, and made grants and charters under it, in violation of the orders of the Crown. It was under this doubtful authority, and in violation of the orders of the King of England, that this charter of the town of Whitingham, of the 12th of March, 1770, was issued by the Governor of New York. Coming as it did, from at least questionable authority, void by its own provisions, we see no good reason for its being drawn from the obscurity, where it had remained a dead letter for more than a century, and placing it in the Town Clerk's office, as part of the records of the town of Whitingham. It can but serve to mislead the people, as to historical facts.

Mr. Jillson says in his Centennial address, "application having been duly made for a new charter, Cumberland County was re-established by the King, March 19, 1768;" but where he gets his authority for that, he does not inform us. We find no such thing recorded in Thompson's History of Vermont, or any other history we have been able to obtain. The proprietors in that charter of the town of Whitingham, knowing it to be void, had evidently laid it aside as worthless, in the secretary's office of New York, and the people of Whitingham never heard of such a charter, till the Centennial celebration of 1880. If it was ever known or recognized by the early settlers of the town, as a basis of organization, or of any validity whatever, would not some allusion have been made to it in the town records?

It is a well authenticated fact, that these pioneer settlers in Whitingham, both before and after the organization of the town, were in full sympathy in feeling and interest, with the settlers of other towns in this part of the state. They took a deep interest in the struggle of the inhabitants of the New Hampshire grants for liberty and independence. And to suppose these early settlers in Whitingham were in sympathy with the New York aristocrats, or in any way recognized their dependence upon them for the title to their lands, would be doing gross injustice to their memory. The tragic affair at the court-house in Westminster, on the 13th of March, 1775, in which William French was killed, had aroused anew the spirit of opposition to the claims of the New Yorkers, throughout the entire settlements, on the east side of the mountain as well as on the west.

The first settlers of Whitingham, like those in other towns in southern Vermont, were imbued with the true spirit of liberty, ready to make any necessary sacrifice to protect and maintain their rights. They possessed their full share of courage and perseverance, common to the "Green Mountain Boys," and followed in the lead of the Allens, Robinsons, Warners, Bakers, Cochrans, Breckenridges, Browns, and others, that fearlessly resisted the despotic encroachments of those heartless New York land grabbers, upon their inherent rights and peaceable possessions. They were a self reliant people, conscious of the righteousness of their course, and determined to protect themselves and their unquestionable rights.

The inhabitants of Vermont, or of the territory now comprising the state, had declared themselves a free and independent Jurisdiction or State, three years before the settlers in Whitingham had made any organization as a town, or taken any action, that the records show, in town meeting. But they were by no means indifferent spectators of the controversy between the people of Vermont and the government of the province of New York. And when there had become permanent settlers within its borders sufficient to warrant the organization of a town, they held a town meeting, chose the necessary officers, and perfected an organiza-

tion ; and was ever afterwards recognized as a town, with all the rights, powers and privileges of other towns in the State.

That the territory of Whitingham was once called Cumberland, there can be no reasonable doubt. There are many facts recorded in history that show such to be the case ; not the least of which, is the reported survey in the New York charter. Whether the survey therein reported was ever made by actual measurement, or whether it was only made in the recording office of New York, is immaterial, so far as the name of Cumberland is concerned. The starting point in that survey could not have been the corner of Cumberland County, but the corner of a town or tract of land known as Cumberland. It says, "Beginning at a hemlock tree and a beech tree, standing close together, having two large stones laid between them, standing in the line run for the bounds of the Massachusetts Bay, and which beech tree is marked with these words : 'The Corner of Cumberland,' and runs thence north, ten degrees east, six miles ; thence north, 80 degrees west, six miles ; thence south, 10 degrees west, six miles, to aforesaid line run for the bounds of the Massachusetts Bay ; and then along the line south, 10 degrees east, six miles to the said place of beginning." So this starting point could not have been the corner of Cumberland county ; as that county had been chartered and established by the authorities of the province of New York some years before the charter of Whitingham was granted. And the boundaries of the county of Cumberland, as given in Thompson's history of Vermont, are as follows : "Beginning in Massachusetts north line, on the west bank of Connecticut river, and running west, ten degrees north, about 26 miles to the southeast corner of Stamford ; thence north, 13 degrees east, 56 miles to the southeast corner of Socialborough (now Clarendon); thence north, 53 degrees east, 30 miles to the south corner of Tunbridge ; thence along the south line of Tunbridge, Strafford, and Thetford, to Connecticut river ; and down said river to the place of beginning." This is conclusive evidence that the southwest corner of the town of Whitingham was once known as the corner of Cumberland.

It will be seen that these grants of 21,900 acres of land to these 13 proprietors named in the New York charter of Whitingham, must have covered more than nineteen twentieths of the entire town ; and yet we find no deed of conveyance in any form by only two of the persons named in that charter. In 1779, Eleazer Fitch deeded two hundred acres to Daniel Wilcox and William Clark ; describing as part of the right of Col. James Smedley, deceased, by virtue of letters patent from the province of New York. The deed was signed "Fitch," and recorded September 27, 1783.

On the 10th day of August, 1786, Nathan Whiting quit claimed his right to the north half of Whiting's grant in Whitingham to William Anderson, and also gave a like deed to Silas Brooks, and another to James Mullet ; all bearing the same date, August 10, 1786, and all recorded August 13, 1786. And in these deeds he guarantees, and warrants, against all claims of any person or persons, claiming by, from, or under the New York charter of the town of Whitingham. These two are the only persons named in that charter, that we find any kind of conveyance from, to any person, in the land records of Whitingham. And from the fact that Nathan Whiting, one of the principal proprietors named in the charter, was willing to warrant against all claims arising by, from, or under that charter, at the date of these deeds in 1786, is strong presumptive evidence that the charter was treated as void.

If, as Mr. Jillson in his Centennial address says, the land comprising the town of Whitingham was the property of the following named persons, James Eddington, John Norbergh, Thomas Etherington, Thomas Gamble, Dennis Carlton, John Walker, Nathan Whiting, Samuel Fitch, Eleazer Fitch, James Smedley, Andrew Myres, Robert Alton, Samuel Boyer, it is singular that no record evidence of conveyance from any of these persons to the first settlers of Whitingham exists, save the two hundred acres to Wilcox and Clark, by "Fitch," till more than six years after the town was organized in 1780. And even then, or at any time afterwards, by only one other of the persons above named, and he warranting against all claims by, from, or under, the

charter by the governor of New York, claimed to be the charter of the town of Whitingham.

After the representatives of the inhabitants of these grants, known as the "New Hampshire Grants," had, in convention on the 10th day of January, 1777, declared "that the district of territory comprehending and usually known by the name and description of the "New Hampshire Grants," is, and of right ought to be, a free and independent Jurisdiction or State, by the name of New Connecticut; which was soon after changed to Vermont, the early settlers in the town of Whitingham, both before and after they had organized the town, as their records show, fully endorsed the action of that convention. When they had organized their town, and secured the rights and privileges of other towns in the state, the records show that they were not behind the inhabitants of other towns in their efforts to suppress the unwarrantable encroachments of the inhabitants of the province of New York, upon the just rights of the settlers on these grants, and the independence of the State.

In less than two years after the organization, they voted in town meeting, "To raise two men for the campaign for eight months, and to pay them by a town rate." The record of their action, as a town, fully confirms the fact, that these pioneer settlers in this new township took an active part in the efforts of the people inhabiting the territory now comprising the state of Vermont, to establish their freedom and independence. Civil and religious liberty were cardinal maxims in their creed; and to establish these principles on a permanent basis, was their determined and persevering effort. The oppression their fathers had endured throughout the American colonies had engendered a love of liberty in these brave sons, that was paramount to all other considerations. They endured the toils, and braved the hardships incident to a new settlement in a foreign wilderness, with the cherished hopes and fondest anticipations of founding a self-constituted government, where every citizen could enjoy his equal rights to freedom and independence.

We here give another extract from Mr. Jillson's Centennial address that may be of some importance in determining the

validity of the New York charter of March 12, 1770. He says, "On the 15th day of March, 1780, three thousand acres of land were granted to Silas Hamilton, Thomas Stearns, John Butler, James Roberts, Abner Moore, James Angel, Charles Dodge, and Eliphalet Hyde, bounded as follows, viz.: Beginning at the southeast of Wilmington and northeast corner of Whitingham at a beech tree marked P. P. M.; thence bounded on Wilmington north, 80 degrees west, 176 chains and 25 links to a small maple tree marked P. P. M.; thence south, 10 degrees west, 171 chains and 25 links to a large beech tree marked M. C—; thence south, 80 degrees east, 176 chains and 25 links to a large hemlock tree on Halifax line; thence north, 10 degrees east, 171 chains and 25 links to the first mentioned bounds. This was probably the first grant of land in Whitingham under authority of the State of Vermont, and was the same land covered by the grants of Lieut. John Norbury and Lieut. Thomas Etherington, granted by New York in December, 1766. What became of Norbury and Etherington does not appear, but they probably found employment after the 19th of April, 1775."

He further says, "It will be discovered by the petitioners and grants issued, that Vermont recognized, not only the New York charter, but the land grants of that State, so far as Whitingham was concerned, and the charter granted in 1770, is now the charter of this town, recognized by the State, and in full force."

Now if the State of Vermont, on the 15th day of March, 1780, recognized that New York charter, and the land grants in Whitingham by that State under it, as valid, and in "full force," were not these three thousand acres granted by Vermont to the persons above named, the property of Lieut. Norbury, and Lieut. Etherington or their representatives? Then why should Vermont authority grant the same lands in Whitingham covered by the New York grants, to other, and different parties? If the authorities of the State of Vermont granted the three thousand acres to these Whitingham parties, March 15, 1780, before the town was organized, covering lands known to have been previously granted by New York to other parties; it is quite conclusive evidence

that the State of Vermont *did not*, at that time, deem the New York charter, and grants under it, as valid. Nor is there the slightest evidence in the petition of these parties, or in the description or survey of the land granted under it, to warrant the conclusion that Vermont recognized that charter as of any consequence. There is no authority given to support the presumption that Vermont recognized the New York charter of the town of Whitingham as of any validity, in any part of the elaborate Centennial address.

FIRST SETTLEMENTS.

Settlements had been made in the northeast part of the town by James Angel and others, several years before the town was organized.

We have not been able to learn the exact date when James Roberts and Jabez Foster, the paternal ancestors of the Roberts and Foster families, so long and well known in Whitingham, first came to this town, but it must have been some time before the organization in 1780. There had also quite a number of families settled in the northwest part of the town before that date. Robert Bratten, Leonard Pike, Ebenezer Davis and others, had settled in that quarter. Amos Green, James Reid, Amasa Shumway, Calvin Munn, Nathan Green, the father of the Green family in Whitingham, and several others had settled in different localities near the centre of the town. Singleton Williams, Daniel Wilcox, and some others settled in School District No. 6, near the Waste and Aldis Brown farms at an early date.

At the time the town was supposed to be organized, March 30, 1780, the population could not have exceeded 200. The Grand List of 1781, (the first taken that the records show) comprised a list of 58 for the assessment of taxes ; a large proportion of which, were young men without families, and there were no large families in town at that time. By a census taken in 1771, Whitingham, then called Cumberland, had only 14.

There is probably no town in this county, in which it is more difficult to find correct accounts of the first settlers, than Whitingham. For the reason that a few of the first, were men of no great notoriety, and none of their descendants are known to be living. But from 1774 or '75, the settlements increased more rapidly ; and it is evident that this was known and recognized as a town of some importance, several years before 1780 ; and that it was first known as Cumberland.

A convention of delegates from twenty-five towns on the west side of the range of the Green Mountains, and eight of the towns in the present County of Windham, on the east side, met at Cephas Kents, in Dorset, July 24, 1776, by previous arrangement, for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiments of the inhabitants of the several towns they represented, in relation to the plan of forming an independent government, for the territory then known and designated as the New Hampshire Grants. We can find no documents on record of the doings of the convention, except that it was adjourned, to meet at the same place, on the 25th of September following.

September 25th, 1776, this convention met pursuant to adjournment, and fifty-six members, representatives of the towns on both sides of the Mountain, were present at the opening of the meeting. The records show that Halifax, Marlboro, and Guilford, had representatives present ; and that Wilmington, and Cumberland, were represented by letters from some of the principal inhabitants, settng forth that the sentiments of the people of their respective localities in relation to the matters to be considered, were in full accord with those of other towns in this section of the territory. This further confirms the fact, that Whitingham was known as Cumberland ; it also affords the strongest presumption, that not only the inhabitants of this town, but the people of other towns under the New Hampshire Grants, at that time treated the New York charter of Whitingham of March 12, 1770, as a nullity. This was six years after that charter was made, and if the charter of Whitingham by the province of

New York was recognized by the people of the New Hampshire Grants, now the State of Vermont, as valid, why should it be called Cumberland in 1776 ?

At this convention at Dorset, it was unanimously resolved to resist the disingenuous and arbitrary acts of the government and people of the province of New York ; and they finally made and subscribed the following covenant, viz: " We the subscribers, inhabitants of the district of land commonly called and known by the name of the New Hampshire Grants, being legally delegated and authorized to transact the public and political affairs of the aforesaid district, for ourselves and our constituents, do solemnly covenant and engage, that, for the time being, we will strictly and religiously adhere to the several resolves of this, or a future convention constituted in said district by the free voice of the friends of American liberties, which shall not be repugnant to the resolves of the honorable the Continental Congress, relative to the cause of America." (See Slades State Papers, pages 66—7)

Soon after this, Cumberland was changed and known as Whitingham, most probably taking its name from Whiting, and the New York charter; Whiting and Fitch, being the only persons of the thirteen original grantees named in the charter, that there is any evidence of conveyance from, of any lands in any part of the town ; and that was more than six years after the town, as the records show, was organized with equal rights and powers of other towns in Vermont. There are some facts recorded in history that clearly show, that this town was recognized as a town for the purposes of representation in conventions and legislative bodies, both as Cumberland, and Whitingham, before 1780. In Slades' Vermont State Papers, we find, besides the account of the convention at Dorset, above mentioned, when it was called Cumberland, a list of the members of the General Assembly, holden at Windsor in October, 1778, that Whitingham was represented in that session of the legislature of Vermont, by Lieut. Silas Hamilton. And fifty-eight other towns were represented by seventy-three members, many of the towns having two representatives. There is no list of the members of any other

session of the legislature given in that volume.

Whether the town kept any record of its acts and doings as a town, previous to 1780, or whether in fact it had any action as a corporate body before that date, we have no means of knowing, as no records have been preserved of an earlier date, than March 30, 1780. But from the early history of the State, it seems to have been recognized as a town for the purpose of representation in conventions, and the legislative assembly, several years earlier. And there is nothing in the first town records that show any representative to the General Assembly elected till several years after that. From the record in the secretary of State's office it appears that Whitingham was represented but two years between 1778 and 1788, and that was 1784 and 1785.

Whitingham might have been recognized as a town by the other towns, and the people inhabiting what was known as the "New Hampshire Grants," several years before any records of their acts were made in form to be preserved. There appears to be some evidence of this town in Slade's State Papers, even while the territory comprising it was called Cumberland. But the first records of any town-meeting now in existence, bears date of March 30, 1780. And we here give a verbatim copy of the record of that meeting.

"At the annual Town meeting March 30 1780 the men whos names are under Ritten Ware Chosen to Offis Eliphalet Hyde Town Clerk James Angel Eliphalet Hyde Silas Hamilton Selet men Silas Hamilton Treasurer Abner More Levi Shumway Constables Abner More Thoms Hunt Ebenezer Davis John Nelson Jun Highway Servayers Thoms Hunt Elephalet Hyde Lesters Levi Shumway Abner More Collectors Thomas Stearns Grand Juror John Butler Seler of Waits and Mesurs Amasa Shumway Thoms Stearns Deer Rief"

It will be seen that they elected at this meeting, nearly all the officers required by law for towns, at the present time; but the office of "Deer Rief" is not known in these days, and what the duties of that office was in former times, is not known.

At the anual Town-meeting of March 26, 1781, Thomas Stearns was chosen Moderator ; Amos Green, Town Clerk ; Leonard Pike, Eliphalet Hyde, Thomas Blodgett, Selectmen ; Thomas Stearns, Treasurer ; Amasa Shumway, and Jabez Foster, Constables ; Thomas Stearns, Benjamin Blodgett, Grand Jurors ; Henry Lee, Eliphalet Gustin, Tithingmen ; Abner More, Jabez Foster, Leonard Pike, Thomas Stearns, John Nelson, Petit Jurors.

The records show a town meeting holden on the 11th day of December, 1781, and after choosing a moderator, the record proceeds as follows : "Voted to make allowance to those that have done most in the present war."

"Voted that the Selectmen be a committee to treat with Capt. Hambleton concerning his not petitioning the General to have our provision rate taken of."

At the annual Town meeting, March 4, 1782, Thomas Hunt was elected Town Clerk, and five Selectmen were chosen, viz : Daniel Wilcox, Thomas Hunt, Jabez Foster, Henry Lee, and Amasa Shumway. Thomas Stearns, Treasurer ; Jonathan Barton, Amos Green, Constables.

This meeting was adjourned to the 28th of the same month, when the town, as the record shows : "Voted to raise two men for the ensuing campaign for eight months." They also voted at the same meeting, " to raise said men by a town rate."

It will be seen by these votes of the town at that early date, that these pioneer settlers in Whitingham, took a deep interest in the struggle for freedom and independence, although Vermont was not a member of the confederacy of States, that declared their independence more than five years before. And the inhabitants of this town, as well as other sections of Vermont, had absolved themselves from all allegiance to the government of New York, or any other government, except that of their own creation.

At the annual Town meeting, March 3, 1784, it was voted "That the Selectmen find the Senter of the town, and make report at the next annual Town meeting." It was also voted at the same meeting, " that Daniel Wilcox, Thomas Blodget, and James Roberts, be a committee to look out some suitable

place for a Burying Yard, in this town." By this time the people began to see the necessity of having roads, and they voted that one shilling on the pound be raised for highway work; and "that three pence on a pound, be raised to defray Town Charges." And they fixed the price of highway work for the ensuing year at three shillings per day; and the record shows "that Mr. Pike be allowed one silver dollar in payment for money he let Capt. Eliphalet Hyde have." At this meeting it was voted, "That the town meetings be held at the house of James Read, in the future." James Read then lived near where the house formerly known as the Higley house, in the centre village, was located.

The town meetings for 1785 and 1786, were held at James Read's house, but the records show nothing of importance done during that time, except to elect town officers, grand and petit jurors, and ordinary town business. In 1787, at the annual March meeting the town voted, "That the Selectmen serve free of cost to the town." In 1788, the annual March meeting was held at the dwelling house of Calvin Munn, then living at a place afterwards called "The Corners," near the location of the school-house, in the district now No. 8. But nothing of importance appears in the records of that year.

Up to this time nothing had been done by the town in relation to establishing any system for common schools. And the records show no action by the town about schools till the annual March meeting in 1789; when the people began to realize the necessity of some systematic plan for the education of their children. At that meeting they took that important matter into consideration, and finally voted a committee consisting of Daniel Wilcox, Lieut. Isaac Lyman, Lieut. Benjamin Blodget, Andrew Carnigee, James Roberts, Nathaniel Davis, Amasa Shumway, James Mullet, and Solomon Bishop; to divide the town into School Districts. It would seem by the records that this committee performed their work but imperfectly, if at all, as we find no record of any report of their doings, or any further action on the subject of schools by the town, till 1798. But from the records of that year, it is evident the town had previously been divi-

ded into several Districts, for the accommodation of the inhabitants without any definite boundaries, or regular numbers.

At this time the town was gaining quite rapidly in population and importance as a town. Settlers were coming to this new township from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut; and the first settlers were making commendable progress in the arts of civilization, as well as in clearing up the forests, and carving out productive farms, and establishing comfortable homes for themselves and their families. And besides this, they were forming institutions for the social and moral improvement of the people of this sparsely settled town. Of the personal characteristics of those pioneers that shaped the course and wielded the destinies of this wilderness town, in the early days of its existence, but little is known except what can be gleaned from the records. No person is now living that from personal knowledge can correctly define the leading traits of the primary founders of our town; but industry and economy were evidently cardinal maxims of that age. From the progress they made towards an exalted civilization, the persevering energy and courageous spirit with which they overcame the difficulties, hardships and privations, incident to a new settlement in a foreign wilderness, shows them to be a race of people not inferior in physical endurance, and unwearied enterprise, to any other portion of the people of New England.

At the annual March meeting in 1798, the matter of schools and school Districts was again taken into consideration, and finally a committee of one from each district was chosen to ascertain and define the bounds of the several districts, and to number the same, and report at an adjourned meeting on the 21st of March inst. This committee was John B. Angel, Samuel Parker, Jonathan Wilcox, Benjamin Blodget, Josiah Brown, Walter Eames, James Glass, and Andrew Carnigee. And on the 21st day of March, 1798, this committee made their report, which was accepted, and ordered to be recorded. It thus appears from the records that the town was divided into regularly organized school districts, and the institution of common schools established

upon a permanent basis, before the commencement of the present century.

But few votes of importance appear in the records, from 1789 to 1798, except the election of Town Officers, and the regular routine of town business. But at the annual March meeting in 1795, the Selectmen were directed, by vote of the town, "to build a Pound 30 feet square of sawed or hewed timber." It was voted also, at the same meeting, "that the annual town meetings in the future be held at the school-house in the centre district."

At a town meeting called and holden for the consideration of building a Meeting-house it was "voted 41 to 2, to build a Meeting house for the benefit of said town." The old church on the hill was erected, the outside boarded, windows put in, and a rough floor laid during that year, 1798, so that it was used for a town house, and for meetings of the people for public worship; but was not finished till several years after. But that hill had then become the centre of business attraction for the whole town; and the people of all religious denominations had an equal right to the use of the church for religious worship.

For the first twenty years of the town's organized existence the records show that six different persons held the office of Town Clerk, viz. Eliphalet Hyde, from 1780 to 1781; Amos Green, from 1781 to 1782; Thomas Hunt, from 1782 to 1785; Amos Green, from 1785 to 1794; Samuel Richardson, from 1794 to 1795; James Roberts, from 1795 to 1799; when Jabez Foster was elected, and held the office till 1817. During the same twenty years, twenty different persons were Selectmen for one or more years, as follows: James Angel, 2 years; Eliphalet Hyde, 2 years; Silas Hamilton, 1 year; Leonard Pike, 1 year; Thomas Blodget, 5 years; Daniel Wilcox, 6 years; Thomas Hunt, 3 years; Jabez Foster, 10 years; Henry Lee, 1 year; Amasa Shumway, 2 years; Isaac Lyman, 2 years; James Roberts, 10 years; Samuel Day, 7 years; Calvin Munn, 2 years; James Glass, 1 year; Josiah Brown, 1 year; Jonathan Barton, 2 years; James Mullet, 1 year; Amos Green, 2 years; and Nathan Green, 3 years.

From 1780 to1800 inclusive, the office of Town Treasurer was held by seven different persons, as follows; Silas Hamilton, one, Thomas Stearns, two, Daniel Wilcox, two, Jebez Foster,three, Isaac Lyman, four, Amos Green, three, and Nathan Green six years.

The office of Constable, Collector, Grand Juror, Listers, Tithingmen, etc., were sometimes given to other men, amongst which we find the names of John Nelson, Billie Clark, John Otis, Joshua Coleman, and some others. But the men whose names appear in the records, as holding the more important offices, were the leading spirits of the town—the men who guided the public interest, and wielded the destinies of the people who had adopted Whitingham for a permanent home. At the beginning of the present century, Whitingham had become a town of considerable importance, and was favorably competing with other towns in this part of the State.

At the annual March meeting in 1801, Jonathan Ransom, Francis Porter, James Roberts, and Nathan Green, were chosen a committee to alter the boundaries of the School Districts, and make report at an adjourned meeting, on the 30th day of March 1881. And at that time they made report of their doings, which was accepted by vote of the town. And on the 13th of April, of the same year, the town "Voted to raise five mills on the dollar of the list of 1801, to support preaching, to be disposed of by a committee for that purpose." and also at the same meeting it was "Voted that any one may, if it is against his conscience to pay a tax to support preaching so declare to the Selectmen, whose duty it shall be in such case, to abate their taxes." A committee was chosen at that meeting to divide the town into highway districts.

In 1802, the town "Voted to allow Elder David Lamb, $10.00 for his services the past year." And they also "Voted to raise one cent on the dollar of the list of 1801, to hire preaching, to be paid by November 1st, 1802." And Baxter Hall, Amasa Shumway, and Samuel Preston, was appointed a committee to hire preaching and lay out the money when collected. They raised money also to fence the burying grounds, on condition the owners of the land will convey

the same to the town for that purpose.

November 14th, 1803, "the town raised one cent on the dollar of the list of that year, to purchase powder and lead, and to purchase a book for registering deeds." The powder and lead to be deposited in the upper loft of the Meeting-house, in a chest made for that purpose.

At the annual March meeting in 1804, they raised one cent on the dollar of the list of 1803, for preaching. And December 10, of that year, they "voted to join with the church to give the Rev. Treserved Smith a call to settle here as minister, at a salary of $300 a year."

At an adjourned meeting holden on the 1st Monday of April, 1804, the record shows a vote of the town, seventy-seven to thirty-seven, "to raise money to finish the outside of the meeting-house;" and also a vote "to raise one cent on the dollar for preaching." It appears by the record that there were at least one hundred and fourteen voters as early as 1804. At that time it was almost the universal custom to serve a notice on every new settler, to forthwith depart from the town of Whitingham. This process was called "warning out of town." The object was, as they supposed the effect of such a course would be, to prevent the obligation of the town to support them and their family, in case they became unable to support themselves.

At the annual March meeting in 1806, the town voted to finish the meeting-house, and elected Jonathan Hall, Amos Brown and Ambrose Stone, a committee for that purpose. And selected Justus Hall and Stephen Hodgrass, of Halifax, a committee of acceptance. No votes of importance appear in the records of 1807, '8 and '9, except election of town officers, and other ordinary business of the town.

In the town records of 1810, we find the following: "Congregational church meeting; at a meeting on the 23rd of March, 1810, William Tippet, moderator; Ambrose Stone, clerk; Stephen Billings, Ambrose Stone, Reuben Brown, committee for said society, Reuben Brown, treasurer; voted to raise one cent on the dollar of the list of 1809."

Whether that vote was taken by, and intended to apply to the whole town, or to the Congregational church only, the

record does not say. This was after the Baptist church was organized, and it is not very probable the town would raise funds for the benefit of that church (the Congregationalist), when but a small proportion of the people had any particular sympathy with the Congregational church organization. This church was organized in 1804, with four male, and five female members; and never embraced but a small part of the religious element of the town. And like the Freewill Baptist church of a late date, was discontinued as an organized body, after a few years unsuccessful struggle to sustain itself.

But very little of interest to the present generation, appears in the records, outside the ordinary business of electing town officers, grand and petit jurors for the county court, etc., from 1810 to 1816. During that time, however, the town was divided into highway districts, several burying grounds purchased and fenced, beside making commendable improvement in common schools, and other means of enlightening the people in social and moral culture and the arts of a higher standard of civilization. In 1814 the town "voted that the overseer of the poor, procure a work-house for the poor, and some person to superintend the same." But the records do not show that such vote was ever carried into effect.

In 1816, the idea of building a bridge across Deerfield river was first started. At the annual March meeting of that year, a committee was chosen by vote of the town, to examine the river road, from Charles Burrington's to Ira Davis', to find the most eligible place for a bridge and make report at the next town meeting. This matter passed along without any definite action till 1818, when the town "voted to petition the legislature at its next session, to grant a lottery for the purpose of raising money to build a bridge across Deerfield river, and John Roberts, Amos Brown, and Ephraim Smith, were chosen a committee to carry that vote into effect."

This petition to the legislature, if it was ever presented, was not granted, and the contest over the building of a bridge across the Deerfield, was a long and bitter one. The

question was often and earnestly discussed in town meetings for a long series of years; and the town voted at several different times to raise money for that purpose, on condition that the friends of the bridge would raise enough by subscription, in addition, to meet the expense. It thus passed along from year to year, till the advocates of the bridge wearied of their vain efforts to induce the town to appropriate money for what they deemed to be an imperative public demand. Finally they petitioned the county court, and got a board of commissioners appointed to examine the premises, and lay out and establish a bridge, if in their judgment the public interest required it. And after an examination of the premises, and a full hearing of the parties interested, they decided to lay out and establish a bridge.

Previous to this however, the town had voted at different times to appropriate certain sums, on condition enough could be raised by subscription to complete the job. They also voted at different times to build, and then again not to build, a bridge across Deerfield river.

In 1820, the selectmen, John Roberts, Nathan Brown, and Benjamin Reed, were directed, by vote of the town, to remodel and alter the boundaries of the several school districts, as in their judgment will best accommodate the inhabitants, and facilitate the progress of schools throughout the town, and number and define the bounds of each district, and make report at the next annual March meeting. At the March meeting in 1821, they submitted a report of their doings which was accepted by the town. And in the course of that year, the school districts was reorganized and numbered substantially as they now are. By this reorganization, the town was divided into sixteen districts, and a trustee was elected for each district, as follows:

No. 1, John Brigham,
No. 2, Joseph Corkins,
No. 3, Elisha Dickinson,
No. 4, Jonathan Alexander,
No. 5, Josiah Brown,
No. 6, Amos Brown,
No. 9, Isaac Chase,
No. 10, Levi Boyd,
No. 11, Eli Higley,
No. 12, Benjamin Reed,
No. 13, Joshua Newell,
No. 14, Rufus Carley,

No. 7, Asaph Goodenough, No. 15, Daniel Wheeler,
No. 8, Abel B. Wilder, No. 16, James Warren.

At the March meeting in 1822, the town "voted to raise $60 to repair the roof of the town house, and the fences around the burying grounds," and chose Elisha Putnam, Jeremiah Kingsbury and Abraham Chase, a committee to superintend the laying out of the money for said repairs.

In 1825, the town voted to raise $200 for building a bridge across Deerfield river, on condition that a sum could be raised by subscription in addition, sufficient to build the bridge. But the friends of the bridge failed to raise the required amount, and so it passed by. And in October, 1827, they voted not to build a bridge over Deerfield river.

In 1829, the matter of building a bridge was again taken in hand; and November 18th of that year the town voted to choose a committee to build a bridge across Deerfield river. And accordingly chose John Brigham, Joseph Goodnow, and Amos Brown, a committee for that purpose. And at the same meeting voted to raise $400,00 on last year's list to build the bridge. At the March meeting in 1830, James White and Abraham Chase were added to the bridge committee. But another year passed by without any progress towards building the bridge. But on September 10, 1832, we find a vote to raise $600.00 on the list of 1832, to build a bridge; and that the bridge be completed by the first day of December, 1836.

At a town meeting holden October 26, 1836, it was "voted the Selectmen be authorized to appropriate money sufficient to pay for building a bridge across Deerfield river." And they raised $1600 to pay for the bridge, and for other purposes; to be raised on the grand list of 1836. Thus we find that after 20 years' strife, and almost continuous agitation of the subject in different forms, the so-called "Davis bridge" was finally built; since which time it has been rebuilt and maintained and kept in repair at the expense of the town.

In 1837, the question of building the bridge known as the "Parson's bridge" began to be agitated, and was soon after built by the town without any serious opposition. And at

a town meeting holden December 20, 1837, the town voted to raise money to pay for building the bridge near John Parson's.

At a town meeting holden December 29, 1838, it was voted by dividing the house, to build the road then called the "Goodnow road" (the road leading from Whitingham Centre to Jacksonville) the next season; and chose David Chase 2d, James Roberts, and Asa Godfrey, a committee to superintend the building of the same. And at the same meeting the town authorized this committee to draw orders on the town treasurer for the payment of the same. This road was an important improvement in the matter of travel and transportation between the centre village on the hill, and the village of Jacksonville, but was bitterly opposed by the leading business men of the centre village.

In 1843, the little piece of road called the "Willis and Waters road," leading from the Shepherd D. Faulkner place down to North river at the Waters place, was built, after a more determined opposition than any other road of the same cost and importance to the public interests ever had in the town of Whitingham. The business importance of the centre village had already began to diminish, and Reuben Winn, and Henry Goodnow, then the leading figures in that village, at once saw that this little piece of road of but little more than half a mile, would open an easy access for all the southeast quarter of the town with the village of Jacksonville, and were determined to prevent it at all hazards. But the more numerous advocates of the road, and the public generally, saw the necessity of the road for public accommodation, and pressed their claims without fear or favor. And at a town meeting holden July 15, 1843, the town voted to build the road that season, and chose Asa Fairbanks to let out and superintend the building of the same.

Nothing of special interest appears in the record of the actions of the town for the next few years; no important public improvement in roads, or anything in which the town was directly interested except fencing burying grounds and other small matters till 1847.

The road to Wilmington, called the "Rider Pond Road,"

was the next great contest that engrossed the attention of the people, not of this town only, but of Wilmington as well. The object the petitioners and friends of the road had in view was not merely to effect an easier route to Wilmington, but to afford an outlet for the lumber regions of Searsburg and Somerset to Jacksonville, and from thence down North river to the railroad.

The center village in Whitingham, although comparatively powerless in itself, allied with the forces of Sadawga, and the whole western part of the town made the opposition to the petition in Whitingham a very formidable one to contend with. And Wilmington people who apparently took about as much interest in the opposition as Whitingham, based their defence mainly on the ground that those timber regions west and north, could have equally as good an outlet for their products to the village of Wilmington, and over the "Sheaver Hill," and through West Halifax to the markets below. While the petitioners insisted that a much shorter, less hilly, and more feasible route, was by the Clark Harris mills, and the Castle Bridge to the Abraham Boyd place, and from thence by the Rider Pond and Jacksonville to the markets in Massachusetts.

The contest over this road lasted two or three years, and was persistently opposed in the County Court, and before committees and commissioners, and several examinations and measurements were made, and every inch of available ground was traversed on both sides; till it was finally laid out and surveyed by County Court Commissions July 1st, 1847, but was contested in court for two years after that, and the town ordered to build it. We find at the March meeting in 1849, a vote was passed to build the Rider pond road as far as the Fuller mill that season. But nothing was done towards building it under that vote. And the records of a Town meeting holden on the 27th of May, 1850, show a vote to rescind the vote to build the Rider Pond road. But when the County Court Commissioners laid out the road, the town was ordered to build it to Wilmington town line. And it was accordingly contracted and built in the season of 1849 or 1850 by Martin Brown, and Amos A. Brown.

March 31, 1851, Josiah Briggs, overseer of the poor, petitioned the Probate Court for a guardian to be appointed over John Gates, alleging that he had absconded and left his wife liable to become chargeable to the town of Whitingham. But we find no record of any action on the petition, and there probably was none.

After the Rider Pond road controversy was settled, and the road built, nothing of much importance appears in the records for the next few years, except the ordinary town business, electing town officers, making the necessary appropriations for highways and the usual expenses. At a Town meeting on the 26th of June, 1854, a committee of three, consisting of Hosea F. Ballou, Amherst Lamb, and Leonard Brown, was chosen to revise and re-establish the bounds of the several school districts, and make report at a subsequent meeting. And at a town meeting on the 14th of October, 1854, this committee made their report, which was accepted by the town. But at an adjourned meeting on the 28th day of the same month, the town voted to so amend the report as to take Josiah French, Augustus Farnsworth, and Daniel Lake, from district number three to district number two, in the village of Jacksonville.

Nothing of particular interest, outside the ordinary routine of town business, appears from the records, from this time till 1860 and 1861, when the war of the rebellion engrossed the almost exclusive attention of the people and the town, for the next three or four years. And for the action of the town, in relation to the enlisting of soldiers, raising money to pay bounties, filling the quotas under the several calls of the President of the United States we cannot do better than to here insert "THE SOLDIER'S RECORD," prepared and printed by the direction of the town, before the March meeting of 1866. In this record the action of the town, and a brief account of each soldier enlisted, is more correctly given than would be possible to do now, after the lapse of more than twenty years.

SOLDIERS' RECORD FOR THE TOWN OF WHITINGHAM.

By direction of the Selectmen, in pursuance of a vote taken in town meeting, on the 15th day of Dec., 1866, I have collected such facts in relation to soldiers that served in the Army of the United States, during the late war, as my limited time and opportunities would allow ; and have endeavored to condense them in as concise a form as possible, and give an outline sketch of each soldier. The object of the following pages is more to give the people of Whitingham a brief statistical record of the volunteers belonging to, and procured by the town from abroad, than to furnish a history of their services in detail.

Early in the spring of 1861, when the fire of rebel cannon opened upon Fort Sumter, our people with united voice proclaimed their intention to stand by the flag of their country, and render all the required aid in their power to sustain the constitution and laws against any force that should engage in their overthrow. Meetings were frequently held, and the subject of the rebellion was earnestly discussed by men of all parties. At the call of President Lincoln, April 15, 1861, for 75,000 volunteers, men were ready and anxious to enlist into the service for the purpose of suppressing the rebellion that was already assuming an unexpected magnitude.

Preparations were soon made for raising a company of volunteers in this town and Halifax, to enlist into the service of the United States, but the call of the President was so rapidly filled that orders from the State authorities suspended the operation. Our young men, however, continued their efforts in an informal manner to raise a company from Whitingham, Halifax, and Readsboro. In the month of May men began to enlist from this town into the 2d Reg't Vt. Vols., and during the year 1861 fifteen men enlisted and

were mustered into service with the 2d and 4th Reg'ts Vt. Vols. Those who were mustered into the service of the United States in 1861, and were credited to the town of Whitingham on future calls, as three years men, were the following :

BLANCHARD, JOY N., Age 30.—1st Cav. Reg. ; enlisted Sept. 30, 1861 ; mustered into service Nov. 19, 1861, was thrown from his horse in Dec., '61, broke his collar bone and dislocated his shoulder, taken to Hospital at Georgetown, remained some six weeks, thence to Philadelphia, was transferred from the army to the Hospital Department, was appointed Ward Master, and occupied that post till discharged, Oct. 5, '62.

BURRINGTON, ROBERT, Age 45.—4th Reg't Co. I ; enlisted Sept. 16, '61 ; mustered into service Sept. 20, '61, transferred to Co. B Oct. 12, '62, detailed to come home for recruiting service in Jan. '62, returned to his Reg't in April, was taken prisoner at Savage Station, Va., June 29, '62, sent to the Libby, thence to Belle Isle, and endured the horrors of a rebel prison for about three months, was then paroled, and was finally discharged by reason of disability for service, Dec. 5, '62.

DAVIS, LEWIS A., Age 20.—4th Reg't Co. A ; enlisted Aug. 24, '61 ; mustered into service Sept. 20, '61, was killed at the battle of Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, '62.

DAVIS, LYSANDER, Age 27.—4th Reg't Co. A ; enlisted Aug. 17, '61 ; mustered into service Sept. 20, '61, re-enlisted Dec. 15, '63, taken prisoner June 23, '64, and was afterwards paroled, and was finally mustered out of service July 13, '65.

DIX, HOSEA, Age 36.—2d Reg't Sharp-Shooters Co. H ; enlisted Nov. 21, '61 ; mustered into service Dec. 31, '61, reported as having died Oct. 17, '62 ; can find no report of his services till the time of his death.

EDWARDS, ABIATHAR P., Age 20.—2d Reg't Co. A ; enlisted May 10th, '61 ; mustered into service June 20, '61, served his full term, was mustered out of service June 29th,

'64 ; was in the first battle of Bull Run, in the severe skirmishing at Lee's Mills, and in the whole of the seven days fight on the Peninsula ; was in the battles of Antietam, Banks' Ford, and Fredericksburg ; was also in the fight at Berketsville, Boonsboro, and Funkstown, Md., and Gettysburg, Pa. ; in the Spring of 1864 was in Grant's campaign against Richmond, was in the three days fight in the Wilderness, May 5th, 6th, and 7th, in which his Company lost 36 men killed and wounded ; was fighting more or less almost every day from that time till the 20th of June, when his time of service expired. In all these battles he escaped without a wound, was not in the Hospital a day by reason of sickness, and was off duty but very few days during the whole three years.

EAMES, LUTHER, Age 24.—4th Reg't Co. I ; enlisted Sept. 2, '61 ; mustered into service Sept. 20, '61 ; promoted Corp. and re-enlisted Dec. 15, '63 ; transferred to Co. F Feb. 25th, '65, mustered out of service July 13, '65 ; was in the fight at Lee's Mills, in the seven days battle on the Peninsula, was in the same Brigade with Abiathar P. Edwards and in the same battles with him up to the time he re-enlisted and came home on a furlough. He went back into the service in the winter of '64, was taken prisoner June 23d, '64, sent to the Libby at Richmond, kept nine days, then taken to Andersonville, Ga., where he suffered everything but death for the space of four months ; was taken from thence to Florence, S. C., and kept four months longer with but little if any better treatment ; was finally paroled on the 25th of Feb., '65, and taken to Annapolis, Md., a mere wreck of the human form ; stayed there a few weeks, then came home on a furlough, and returned to the army about the time Lee surrendered his forces to Gen. Grant.

FOSTER, GUSTAVUS, Age 22.—2d Reg't Band ; enlisted June 15th, '61 ; mustered into service June 20th, '61, and was discharged Dec. 19th, '61.

HOLBROOK, RUFUS C., Age 24.—2d Reg't Band ; enlisted June 15th, '61 ; mustered into service June 20th, '61, discharged Dec. 19th, '61 ; came home sick, and died in the

month of April following, of disease contracted while in the service.

HOLBROOK, SELAH H., Age 20.—2d Reg't Co. A; enlisted May 10th, '61; mustered into service June 20th, '61; was taken prisoner in June, '62, endured the horrors and starvation of Libby and Belle Isle for about three months, when he was paroled, and was finally discharged Oct. 17th, '62, and reached home in Dec. following, a mere skeleton, with but a spark of vitality left; but by the constant exercise of a mother's care, he so far regained his health during the winter and spring following, that he was enrolled by the town authorities in the spring of '63, and was drafted in July following, and was the only drafted man in town that responded by entering into the service. He was mustered into the 6th Reg't Co. E, July 13th, '63, was transferred to Co. K Oct. 16th, '64; had his left arm shot off at the battle of Cedar Creek, Oct. 19th, '64, and was finally mustered out of service June 29th, 1865.

LARNARD, THOMAS J., Age 25.—2d Reg't Co. A; enlisted May 1st, '61; mustered into service June 20th, '61; reported as having deserted Oct. 19th, '62.

MORLEY, ELIAS S., Age 21.—1st Reg't Cavalry, Co. F; enlisted Oct. 2d, '61; mustered into service Nov. 19th, '61; re-enlisted Dec. 12th, '63; had his leg broken by the kicking of a horse, Oct. 24th, '63; was in Hospital about six months, joined his Regiment again in the spring of '64, was severely wounded at Mountain Station, Va., May 11th, '64; was in Hospital about five months, came near losing his leg, but finally recovered and was transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps. Few soldiers did more, and none *better* fighting than Mr. Morely while in active service; he was in many of the hardest battles of the war, willing for any part of duty, and noted for coolness and courage; mustered out of service Sept. 12, '65.

PIKE, LEWIS, Age 23.—2d Reg't Sharp-Shooters, Co. H; enlisted Oct. 28th, '61; mustered into service Dec. 31st, '61; re-enlisted Dec. 12th, '63, promoted Corp. March 12th, '64,

missing in action of May 8th, '64, and died of wounds received in action of May 8th, '64.

WHEELER, JAMES W., Age 26.—4th Reg't Co. I; enlisted Aug. 17th, '61; mustered into service Sept. 20th, '61, and reported as deserting Dec. 23d, '63.

WARREN, CHARLES, Age 22.—2d Reg't Band; enlisted June 15th, '61; mustered into service June 20th, '61, was discharged Dec. 19th, '61.

Under the call of the President of the United States, dated July 1st, 1862, for 300,000 men, and the subsequent call of Aug. 4th for 300,000 nine months troops, the town authorities saw the necessity of taking some more efficient measures to fill the quota of the town, under those calls; and accordingly, August 15th, the selectmen warned a town meeting to be held on the 27th day of the same month, "to see what provision the town will make to reward such persons as shall enlist into the service of the United States, for the purpose of suppressing the present rebellion and sustaining the Government and laws." On the 27th day of August the town met, pursuant to above warning, and "voted to raise a sum of money sufficient to pay each accepted volunteer, who shall enlist in the service of the United States, to the number now required of this town to fill up the Regiments now in the field, $125, and also a sum sufficient to pay each acceptable volunteer for nine months, to the number required to fill quota from this town, $100; and that the town also guarantee the $7,00 per month from the State, in case the Legislature refuse to grant it at its next session."

Voted also, "that the volunteers shall be paid such money on their being mustered into service."

And voted further, "that the selectmen be instructed to borrow a sum of money sufficient to pay the same, and pay it over to said volunteers."

Upon this action of the town, the quota of nine months men was immediately filled by volunteers, enlisted by the 3d day of Sept. Meantime, the selectmen and other recruiting officers were busily at work procuring three years men

to fill the quotas required by the calls of the President. And during the year 1862, twenty three years men, were mustered into the service, in addition to the full quota of nine months men. The names of the nine months men, who volunteered under a town bounty of $100, from the town of Whitingham, in the 16th Reg't, in Co. F, commanded by Captain Dix of Wilmington, were as follows :

OFFICERS.

Henry O. Gillett, 1st Lieut.,
Geo. F. Blanchard, 3d Serg't.,
Rinaldo E. Jillson, 5th, "
Albert C. Stetson, Corp.,
Luman C. Wilcox, "

PRIVATES.

Ballou, George E.,
Ballou, Joseph L.,
Barker, Charles A.,
Brown, Mirvin M.,
Dole, William E.,
Eames, Joseph H.,
Easton, Solomon G.,
Fairbanks, Odid C.,
Gillett, Elliot F.,
Griffin, Henry W.,
Griffin, Alfred B.,
Goodnow, Henry S.,
Hescock, Ambrose E.,
Morse, Frederick N.,
Mason, Henry,
Newell, Edward,
Newell, Hiram,
Parker, Edgar,
Pike, Amos W.,
Reed, William H.,
Reed, Alfred,
Reed, Elmer J.,
Rice, Daniel M.,
Rice, Charles H.,
Wilcox, John F.

These are all reported as having enlisted on the 3d day of Sept., '62, and mustered into service Oct. 23d, '62, at Brattleboro. Elmer J. Reed was sick and did not go into the service ; and Henry Mason was transferred to Co. H Oct. 21st, '62, ran away from Brattleboro, came home, and was afterwards arrested as a deserter, together with Lewis Shumway, who had enlisted in another Regiment, and were taken to Burlington, and finally discharged for disability.

Luman C. Wilcox, died in the service, December 29, '62.
William E. Dole, " " " January 10, '63.
Hiram Newell, " " " February 6, '63.
Charles H. Rice, " " " " 6, '63,

Alfred B. Griffin was discharged Feb 12th, '63, by reason

of sickness, and came home soon after ; died of disease contracted in the service on the 20th day of May following. Henry S. Goodnow is reported as having deserted April 14, '63, doubtless by reason of mental aberration. All the rest served out their full term, and were mustered out of service August 10th, 1863.

The Company to which these men belonged was commanded by Lieut. Henry O. Gillett at the battle of Gettysburg, July 1st, 2d, and 3d, '63. Several of the Company were wounded in the fight, three of which, including Lieut. Lawton of Wilmington, died from wounds received ; but none from this town were wounded except Amos W. Pike, who was struck in the arm by the fragment of a shell, by which he was disabled for a short time.

Those who enlisted and were mustered into service for three years, in 1862, and were credited to the town of Whitingham on future calls for troops, were the following :

ALDRICH, FRANCIS H., Age 18.—11th Reg't Co. E ; enlisted Aug. 6th, '62 ; mustered into service Sept. 1st, '62 ; promoted Corp. March 1st, '65 ; mustered out of service June 24th, '65.

ALLARD, HENRY J., Age 29.—4th Reg't Co. A ; enlisted Feb. 24th, '62 ; mustered into service April 12th, '62, and discharged for disability Sept. 12th, '62.

BARKER, AUGUSTUS, Age 20.—8th Reg't Co. H ; enlisted Feb. 1st, '62 ; mustered into service Feb. 18th, '62 ; promoted to Corp. Nov. 26th, '63 ; mustered out of service June 22d, ,64.

BROWN, HENRY B., Age 23.—8th Reg't Co. H ; enlisted Jan. 17th, '62 ; mustered into service Feb. 12th, 62 ; promoted Corp. April 1st, '62, promoted Serg't Nov. 22d, '63, and reenlisted March 5th, '64 ; went to New Orleans in March '62, took part in the battles Jan. 24th and April 12th, '63, was in the battle of Port Hudson, May 27th, participated in the assault on Port Hudson June 14th, was actually engaged in the siege of Port Hudson for forty-two days ; acted as dispatch bearer for Gen. Wertzel most of the time. On the 5th day of July, '64, left New Orleans, went to Washington,

D. C., and joined Sheridan's army ; was in the campaign in Md., and the Shenandoah Valley through the summer of '64 ; was in the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek, with others of our soldiers in the 8th and 11th Reg'ts. At the battle of Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, '64, was wounded severely by a bullet striking in the right breast, passing round under the shoulder blade, where it still remains. This wound was received in the last charge upon the enemy. In the early part of the battle, was, with many others of the Reg't, surrounded by rebels, ordered to surrender, which most of them did. "But three of us," says the soldier, "were determined to cut our way out if possible, at all events to escape the horrors of a southern prison. So we started, using our guns and bayonets to good effect, and all escaped without a scratch, though eight bullets went through my clothes." Mr. Brown was in the Hospital only one week, except when wounded, in the whole service of three years and six months ; joined his Reg't again in Jan., '65 ; was mustered out of service June 28th, '65.

Bickford, Almerin C., Age 32.—11th Reg't Co. E ; enlisted Aug. 2d, '62 ; mustered into service Sept. 1st, '62 ; promoted Corp. March 1st, '65 ; mustered out of service June 24th, '65.

Bickford, Sylvester, Age 29.—11th Reg't Co. E ; enlisted Aug. 11th, '62 ; mustered into service Sept. 1st, '62 ; was wounded at Charlestown, Va., Aug. 21st, '64, in Hospital till Dec. following ; mustered out of service June 24th, '65.

Bishop, Emerson, Age 32.—11th Reg't Co. E ; enlisted Aug. 8th, '62 ; mustered into service Sept. 1st, '62 ; missing in action of May 17th, '64, and was taken prisoner by guerrillas, sent to Andersonville, Ga., and died in that prison Jan. 8th, '65.

Comstock, James H., Age 31.—4th Reg't Co. I ; enlisted March 21st, '62 ; mustered into service April 12th, '62, and died in service Dec. 7th, '62.

Chase, George A., Age 31.—9th Reg't Co. K ; enlisted June 2d. '62 ; mustered into service July 9th, '62, as wagoner ;

was afterwards reduced to ranks, taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry, paroled soon after; went to Virginia and North Carolina, did picket and garrison duty most of the time, was mustered out of service June 13th, '65.

CUTTING, ASA, Age 24.—9th Reg't Co. K; enlisted May 21st, '62; mustered into service July 9th, '62; was Corporal in Co. K, afterwards reduced to ranks, went to Chicago Sept. 29, '62, guarded rebel prisoners three months, went from there to City Point, Va., spent three months at Suffolk in spring of '63, went from there to Yorktown, did picket and garrison duty about six months, had one engagement, went from there to North Carolina, stayed there about nine months, had one hard fight at Newport Barracks in Feb., '64, was mustered out of service June 13, '65.

FAIRBANK, EDWIN, Age 21.—9th Reg't Co. K; enlisted May 27th, '62; mustered into service July 9th, '62; was in the same Company with Asa Cutting, was with him nearly all the time and performed the same duties, and mustered out of service the same day.

HATCH, ELISHA P., Age 21.—11th Reg't Co. E; enlisted Aug. 4th '62; mustered into service, Corporal, Sept. 1st '62, promoted Serg't Dec. 28th, '63, promoted to Quarter-Master Serg't, and mustered out of service June 24th '65.

HICKS, MERRITT G., Age 23.—11th Reg't Co. E; enlisted Aug. 11th '62; mustered into service Sept. 1st '62' promoted Corp'l Jan. 23d, '64; killed at Petersburg, Va., June 23d, '64,

HOWELL, FRANK A., Age 21.—4th Reg't Co. I; enlisted March 17th, '62; mustered into service April 12th, '62; re-enlisted to the credit of the town of Wilmington, March 28th '64; was discharged for promotion in 27th U. S. Colored troups Sept. 8th, '64.

JILLSON HORACE T., Age 20.—11th Reg't Co. E; enlisted Aug. 12th, '62; mustered into service Sept. 1st, '62, and died Nov. 9th, '63, in Regimental Hospital at Fort Slocum.

NEWTON, ALBERT E., Age 35,—9th Reg't Co. K; enlisted June 26th, '62; mustered into service July 9th, '62; killed near Chapin's Farm, Va., Sept. 29th, '64.

STANLEY, GEORGE B., Age .—11th Reg't Co. E; enlisted Aug. 8th, '62; mustered into service Sept. 1st, '62; sick in General Hospital Aug. 31st, '64, and mustered out of service June 24th, '65.

TOBY, HENRY A., Age 18.—8th Reg't Co. H; enlisted Jan. 7th, '62; mustered into service Feb. 18th, '62, and discharged June 27, '62.

TOOLEY, DAVID A., Age 43.—8th Reg't Co. I; enlisted Dec. 9th, '61; mustered into service Feb. 18th, '62, and died Aug. 30th, '63.

TUCKER, JOHN B., Age 23.—8th Reg't Co. B; enlisted Dec. 30th, '61; mustered into service Feb. 18th, '62; discharged for disability; date not reported, probably was not in service with Reg't at all.

When the call for 300,000 troops was issued by the President, under date of Oct. 17th, 1863, and the selectmen had received orders to fill the quota assigned to the town of Whitingham, they again renewed their efforts to induce men to enlist in sufficient numbers to avoid a draft, that was ordered on the 5th day of Jan., 1864, unless the quota was filled previous to that date. Town bounties had already become the order of the day, and the people at once saw, that to attempt to induce men to enlist without a liberal bounty, was altogether useless. In this view of the situation the selectmen, on the 21st day of Nov., 1863, warned a town meeting to be held on the 5th day of Dec. following.

And on the 5th day of Dec., 1863, the town met agreeable to the warrant above alluded to, and "On motion of James Roberts, it was voted to pay each accepted volunteer who has, or shall enlist to fill the quota of the town of Whitingham under the last call of the President of the United States for 300,000 men, before the 5th day of Jan., 1864, the sum of $300, to be paid to each soldier, when he is accepted and mustered into the service of the United States."

At the same meeting the town voted "to instruct the selectmen to borrow, or in some way raise the money to pay the soldiers as above voted."

To fill the quota under the above call, the following volun-

teers for three years enlisted and were mustered into service on the 5th of Jan., 1864, in time to save the draft:

Atherton, John,	Age 31	Lambert, Michael,	Age 24
Blanchard, Geo. F.,	" 38	Murphy, David,	" 20
Briggs, Eli S.,	" 24	Murphy, Patrick,	" 21
Brown, Lansford H.,	" 21	Olden, Daniel,	" 44
Brown, Mirvin M.,	" 19	Pierce, Geo. H.,	" 23
Cady, Aaron L.	"	Ravey, James,	" 41
Clark, Zimri,	"	Reed, Winslow T.,	" 23
Easton, Chauncey C.,	" 22	Rice, Daniel M.,	" 19
Fairbanks, F A.,	" 21	Stafford, Isaac B.,	" 37
Graves, Joseph D.,	" 29	Streeter, Joseph J.,	" 27
Hull, Horace A.,	" 23	Wrinkle, Thomas,	" 41

These were all mustered into service Jan. 5th, 1864, in the 8th Reg't, except James Ravey, who was mustered into the 9th Reg't, Jan. 7th, '64. Zimri Clark was sick and died before the Company left Brattleboro. Aaron L. Cady died on the way out to join the Reg't. Isaac B. Stafford died March 26th, '64. Lansford H. Brown died in Hospital, May 24th, '65. Daniel Olden died Nov. 7th, '64.

The rest of these men, except Chauncy C. Easton, were engaged in the battles of Winchester, Va., Sept. 19th, '64, Fisher's Hill, Va., Sept. 22d, '64, at Cedar Creek, Va., Oct. 19th, '64. In the battle of Cedar Creek Geo. F. Blanchard was killed, and Joseph J. Streeter was wounded and permanently disabled. Horace A. Hull was wounded in the arm but not permanently injured, and Henry B. Brown was wounded severely in the same action.

The men in the 11th Reg't from this town were also engaged in this battle, and did as good fighting as the best of them, but all escaped without harm. The soldiers engaged in that battle are justly entitled to the grateful remembrance of the people, and no event of the war will find a more conspicuous place in its history than Sheridan's Great Victory.

At a town meeting duly warned and holden on the 19th day of Dec., 1863, it was "Voted that the selectmen of the town of Whitingham be, and are, hereby directed to pay an additional bounty to the one voted on the 5th inst., of $300

to each and every man when mustered into the service of the United States, who has been drafted, and has paid to the Government of the United States the $300 commutation money provided by law, on condition they now enlist, or have enlisted, in the service of the United States for the term of three years or during the war, to fill the quota of the town of Whitingham under the last call of the President for 300,000 men ; and provided also, that they shall release and assign to, and for the benefit of said town, all claim they may have or may hereafter have upon the Government of the United States, or any other authority or Government, for the refunding of the $300 paid by them as aforesaid."

In a warrant for a town meeting, to be holden on the 23d day of Jan., 1864, an article was inserted, "To see if the town will vote to pay Luther Eames, and any or all others, who have *re-enlisted* in the United States army for a term of three years or during the war, and are, or may be, credited to said town of Whitingham as soldiers therefrom, the sum of $300 ; or to any persons who have or may enlist for said town, to fill the deficiency of draft now against said town."

At the meeting held under this warrant, Dec. 23d, '64, it was "Voted, to pass over Art. 2d (the one in relation to paying bounties to *re-enlisted* men) in the warrant."

And at the same meeting it was "Voted to pay to the selectmen of the town $65.00, which they advanced to James Ravey, above the $300 bounty which the town paid her volunteers, as contemplated in Art. No. 3 of the warrant."

At the annual March meeting of 1864, an article was inserted in the warrant in relation to paying Luther Eames a bounty as a re-enlisted man from the town of Whitingham, and was passed over by the meeting.

On the 26th day of March, 1864, the town held another meeting, and "Voted, that the town pay a bounty of $300 to *all* volunteers (including Luther Eames) that have enlisted since Oct. 1st, 1863, to fill the call that has been made by the Government of the United States for men to serve in the United States army, to be paid when mustered into the service, and accredited to said town, and have not heretofore been paid bounties by the town, to the amount of $300.

At the same meeting they "Voted, to instruct the selectmen to pay a bounty of $300 to each and every man of the 8th Reg't of Vt. Vol's, commanded by Col. Stephen Thomas, when they shall enlist into the service of the United States, giving Whitingham their place of residence, when mustered, reported and passed to the credit of the town of Whitingham.

They voted also, "to raise a sum equal to the Grand List of said town, to be paid by the selectmen to volunteers that have enlisted or re-enlisted, or shall enlist or re-enlist to fill the quota of said town, and for other purposes."

In a warrant for town meeting, dated March 28th, 1864, the 3d Article was "To see if the town will vote to pay Robert Burrington a bounty for services rendered in the United States service, in the 4th Reg't of Vt. Vols., or vote to instruct the selectmen of said town, to transfer said Burrington to some other town, at his election, where he can realize a bounty." The town passed over the article.

In the meantime the quotas of the town were being filled by re-enlisted men, and such other volunteers as could be found. Seven men re-enlisted to the credit of the town of Whitingham, between the first day of Dec., '63, and the 1st day of April, '64, as follows:

Brown, Henry B.. March 5, '64,	from	8th	Reg't,	Co. H.
Davis, Lysander, Dec. 15, '63,	"	4th	" "	A.
Eames, Luther, Dec. 15, '63,	"	"	" "	I.
Eddy, George P., Jan. 5, '64,	"	8th	" "	I.
Eddy, John A., Dec. 29, '63,	"	1st Cavl'y,	"	F.
Morley, Elias S., Dec. 26, '63,	"	"	" "	F.
Pike, Lewis, Dec. 21, '63,	"	2d S. S.,	"	H.

Besides these re-enlisted men, two others, Hollis B. Griffin and Levi N. Barnes had enlisted in the 17th Reg't (Griffin Oct. 13, '63, and Barnes March 29, '64), and been credited to the town before any action was taken by the town to send agents abroad to procure volunteers.

The year 1864 was the most exciting time of the war. Some of our people had began to despair of the ultimate success of our armies in suppressing the rebellion, and too

many of them manifested a disposition to deal with the Government, in relation to supplying the calls for men, as they would deal with a party in adverse interest. To rid themselves of their obligations to the Government seemed to be their leading purpose. And the same policy was generally adopted in all the towns in this section of the country. Brokers and speculators in men, to fill the quotas of the towns, were engaged in every quarter. Each man liable to draft, seemed intent on having substitutes supplied at the expense of the towns. And this town was no exception to the rule. Under the impulse of this feeling, an exciting town meeting was held on the 11th of June, 1864, at which the subject of bounties, the manner of raising recruits, and the policy of sending agents abroad to obtain volunteers, was fully and earnestly discussed. Town bounties had already been swelled to an extravagant extent, and the raising of men for the service of the Government had become a mere matter of dollars and cents. Thousands of dollars were expended by towns for recruits to fill their quotas that were of no service whatever to the Union Army, as will be seen if we take our own town for an example. The table hereinafter given will serve to illustrate the effect of procuring volunteers by an extravagant bounty.

The vote of the town at the meeting above alluded to, in relation to raising men, were as follows :

2d. "Voted, that the town pay a bounty of $400 to every acceptable volunteer that shall enlist for the town of Whitingham, when mustered into the service of the United States, and $400 to every drafted man that enters the service or furnishes a substitute. And every man in this town, that is liable to a draft, that shall put a substitute in the field, and be credited to this town, to fill the coming call, and all future calls. And authorize the selectmen to procure the men as cheap as possible."

3d. "Voted, to authorize the selectmen to send one of their number forthwith, or an agent, abroad and procure twenty-two men to serve as soldiers in the army of the United States, to be accredited to this town, for the lowest amount possible."

In pursuance of this vote of the town, Reuben Winn, Esq., one of the selectmen, immediately started on a mission to procure volunteers to fill quotas under calls of Feb. 1st and March 15th, 1864, and spent nearly his whole time, from June 13th to Sept. 1st, at a cost of about $6 per day, including expenses.

William H. Lynde, another of the board of selectmen, spent twenty-nine days, from the 13th of June to the 20th of Sept., obtaining volunteers and getting them mustered into service, at a cost, including all expenses, of about $130.

During the Summer and Fall of 1864, ten three years men were enlisted and passed to the credit of the town of Whitingham, viz :

Bray, David,	Neenan, James,
Brown, George F.,	Nelson, Charles,
Conners, John,	Moore, Charles,
Danforth, Charles,	Pason, James H.,
Freeman, John,	Tooly, John H.

These men were all procured from abroad except John H. Tooly, who had enlisted for the town of Wilmington, and by an arrangement between the selectmen of the towns, he was transferred and credited to Whitingham. Six of the other nine deserted, either before they were mustered into service, or while on the way to the Reg'ts to which they were assigned. One, Charles Danforth, was killed in action before Petersburg. Charles Moore died in the service, and John Freeman was mustered out at the close of the war.

The selectmen had also, during the same period, enlisted ten men for the term of one year, which was credited to the town, of which six were citizens of Whitingham, one from Readsboro, and three from other towns, residence unknown. Their names are as follows :

Allard, Henry J.,	Lander, Peter J.,
Burke, Frederick,	Sherman, Albert C.,
Esty, Henry W.,	Shumway, Chandler C..
Dodds, Samuel S.,	Wilcox, John F.,
Lake, Daniel G.,	Wilcox, Zachary T.

Two of these, Henry J. Allard and Samuel S. Dodds, were discharged for disability, and are not reported as ever having joined the Reg'ts at all. The other eight were duly mustered into service as follows :

BURKE, FREDERICK, Age 19.—1st Cavalry Co. F ; enlisted Aug. 30th, '64 ; mustered in same day, and was mustered out of service June 21, '65.

ESTY, HENRY W., Age 23.—9th Reg't Co. K ; enlisted Sept. 1st, '64 ; mustered in same day, and mustered out of service June 27th, '65.

LAKE, DANIEL G., Age 44.—11th Reg't Co. E ; enlisted Aug 26th, '64 ; mustered in same day, and was mustered out of service June 23, '65.

LANDER, PETER J., Age 18.—1st Cavalry Co. M.—enlisted Dec. 7th, '64 ; mustered into service Dec. 9th, '64 ; transferred to Co. F June 21st, '65 ; mustered out of service Aug. 9, '65.

SHERMAN, ALBERT N., Age 22.—1st Cavalry Co. F ; enlisted Sept. 8th, '64 ; mustered in same day ; promoted Corp'l, and mustered out of service June 21, 65.

SHUMWAY, CHANDLER C., Age 18.—1st Cav. Co. B ; enlisted Aug. 27th, '64 ; mustered in same day, and mustered out of service June 19, '65.

WILCOX, JOHN F., Age 30.—1st Cav. Co. F ; enlisted Aug. 29th, '64 ; mustered in same day, and mustered out of service May 31st, '65.

WILCOX, ZACHARY T., Age 18.—1st Cav. Co. F ; enlisted Sept. 22d, '64 ; mustered in same day, and mustered out of service June 21st, '65.

On the 23d day of July, 1864, another town meeting was held, wherein the town acted as follows :

2d. " Voted, to reconsider the 3d vote passed or taken by the town on the 26th of March, 1864. (Relative to paying re-enlisted men in the 8th Vt. Vol's, under Col. Thomas.)

4th. "Voted, to modify or alter the 2d vote taken on the 11th of June, 1864, so as to pay $150 to men that will volunteer for one year, and pay $500 to volunteers for three years, and pay $500 to men that are liable to a draft who will, or have, put in a substitute for three years."

"And to modify and alter the 3d vote taken June 11th, 1864, so as to procure thirty-two men, deducting therefrom what men have entered the service of the United States since the 11th day of June, 1864, and have been accredited to this town."

At another town meeting holden on the 10th day of Dec., 1864, it was voted, 6th:

"To pay John H. Tooley a bounty of $100, for three years service in the army for the town of Whitingham."

7th. "Voted, to instruct the selectmen to pay to enrolled men, who have furnished substitutes to the credit of the town of Whitingham, for the term of three years, in accordance with the votes of the town, of June 11th and July 23d, 1864."

At the annual March meeting of 1865, the 24th vote taken was, "To instruct the selectmen to draw orders on the Town Treasury for each enrolled man in said town, who has furnished, to the credit of Whitingham, an acceptable substitute for three years, since Dec. 10th, 1864."

25th. "Voted, a bounty of $250 to Benjamin P. Brown, a volunteer in the United States service for one year, for the town of Whitingham."

At a town meeting holden on the 21st day of Dec., 1865, an article was inserted in the warrant in relation to paying a bounty to Selah H. Holbrook and Robert Burrington, for services in the United States army, to the credit of the town. And after considerable discussion, in which their claims, and especially Mr. Holbrook's, was strongly and earnestly urged, the town voted to pass over the article.

And at the annual March meeting of 1866, substantially the same thing was done. The same subject again came up in town meeting on the 15th day of Dec., 1866, and met the same fate. And whether the town will ever see fit to vote them, or either of them a bounty, seems at least doubtful.

The amount of credits to the town of Whitingham given to each volunteer who has enlisted and been mustered into service, the time of actual service by each man, dating from the time of muster into the service to the time he was mustered out, discharged, or deceased, (not counting fractions of a month), together with the amount of bounty paid to each man by the town, will be seen by the following table:

NAMES.	TERM OF CREDITS TO TOWN.		TIME OF ACTUAL SERVICE.		AMT TOWN B'UNTIES.	REMARKS.
	yrs.	mo.	yrs.	mo.	$	
Aldrich, Francis H.	3		2	9		
Allard, Henry J.	4			5	615	
Atherton, John	3		1	6	300	
Barker, Augustus	3		2	4		
Barnes, Levi N.	3		1	2	300	
Burke, Frederick	1			10	700	
Barker, Charles A.		9		9	100	
Ballou, George E.		9		9	100	
Ballou, Joseph L.		9		9	100	
Bickford, Almerin C.	3		2	9		
Bickford, Sylvester	3		2	9		
Bishop, Emerson	3		1	8		Died in service.
Bishop, Isaac D.		9		9	100	
Blanchard, Joy N.	3		1	1		1st Reg't Cavalry.
Blanchard, George F.	3	9	1	6	400	Killed in battle of Cedar Creek.
Bray, David	3				675	
Briggs, Eli S.	3		1	6	300	
Brown, Mirvin M.	3	9	2	3	400	
Brown, Henry B.	6		3	5	300	Re-enlisted.
Brown, Lansford H.	3		1	3	300	Died in service of disease.
Brown, George F.	3				425	Deserted before muster in.
Brown, Benjamin P.	1			10	250	
Burrington, Robert	3		1	3		Discharged for disability.
Cady, Aaron L.	3				300	Died on the way to Regiment.
Clark, Zimri	3				300	Died before Co. left Brattleboro.
Chase, George A.	3		2	11		
Comstock, James H.	3			8		Died in service of disease.
Conners, John	3				675	Deserted on way to Regiment.
Cutting, Asa	3		2	11		
Davis, Lewis A.	3		1	3		Killed at Fredericksburg.
Davis, Lysander	6		3	10	300	Re-enlisted.
Danforth, Charles	3			3	700	Killed at Petersburg.
Dix, Hosea.	3		1	1		Died in service of disease.
Dole, William E.		9		3	100	Died in service of disease.
Eames, Joseph H.		9		9	100	
Easton, Solomon G.		9		9	100	
Eames, Luther	6		3	10	300	Re-enlisted.
Easton, Chauncy C.	3		1	6	300	
Edwards, Abiathar P.	3		3			
Eddy, George P.	3		1	6	300	Re-enlisted from a Mass. Reg't.
Eddy, John A.	3		1	6	300	" " " "
Esty, Henry W.	1			10	600	Resident of Readsboro.
Fairbanks, Odid C.		9		9	100	
Fairbanks, Edwin	3		2	11		Resident of Heath, Mass.
Fairbanks, Freeman A.	3			3	300	Died in service of disease.
Freeman, John	3			9	750	
Foster, Gustavus	3			6		
Gillett, Henry O.		9		9	100	
Gillett, Elliot F.		9		9	100	
Griffin, Henry W.		9		9	100	
Griffin, Alfred B.		9		4	100	(Discharged, and died of disease
Goodnow, Henry S.		9		6	100	(contracted in service.
Graves, Joseph D.	3		1	6	300	

NAMES.	TERM OF CREDITS TO TOWN.		TIME OF ACTUAL SERVICE.		AMT TOWN BOUNTIES.	REMARKS.
	yrs.	mo.	yrs.	mo.		
Griffin, Hollis B.	3		1	4	300	
Hescock, Ambrose E.		9		9	100	
Hicks, Merritt G.	3		1	9		Killed in action at Petersburg.
Hatch, Elisha P.	3		2	9		
Holbrook, Selah H.	6		3	6		Drafted, ent'd service under draft.
Holbrook, Rufus C.	3			6		Died of disease contractin in s'rv'e
Howell, Frank A.	3		2	1		Re-enlisted for Wilmington.
Hull, Horace A.	3		1	6	300	
Jillson, Rinaldo E.		9		9	100	
Jillson, Horace T.	3		1			Died in service at Fort Slocum.
Lambert, Micheal	3		1	6	300	
Lake, Daniel G.	3			10	500	
Langdon, Peter Jr.	1			8	700	
Larned, Thomas J.	3		1	4		Reported as deserting.
Mason, Henry		9				Never joined Regiment.
Morse, Frederick N.		9		9	100	
Morley, Elias S.	6		3	7	300	1st. Reg't Cavalry, re-enlisted.
Moore, Charles	3			5	475	Died in service of disease.
Murphy, David	3		1	6	300	
Murphey, Patrick	3		1	6	300	
Newell, Edward		9		9	100	
Newell, Hiram		9		4	100	Died in service of disease.
Newton, Albert E.	3		2	2		Killed in action at Chapin's Farm.
Neenan, James	3			2	550	Deserted.
Nelson, Charles	3				475	Deserted before joining Reg't.
Olden, Daniel	3			10	300	Died in service of disease.
Parker, Edgar		9		9	00	
Pike, Amos W.		9		9	00	
Pason, James H.	3				675	Deserted, never joined Reg't.
Pike, Lewis	6		2	6	300	Re-en. died of wounds rec'd in ac'n
Pierce, Geo. H.	6		1	6	600	Drafted, paid commutation.
Ravey, James	3		1		365	Died in service of disease.
Reed, Wm. H.		9		9	100	
Reed, Alfred		9		9	100	
Reed, Elmer J.		9				Sick, never joined Co.
Reed, Winslow T.	3		1	6	300	
Rice, Daniel M.	3	9	2	3	400	Enlisted for 9 mos. and Vet. Vol.
Rice, Chas. H.		9		4	100	Died in service of disease.
Stetson, Albert C.		9		9	100	
Stanley, George B.	3		2	9		
Stafford, Isaac B.	3		1	2	300	Died in service of disease.
Streeter, Joseph J.	6		1	6	600	Drafted, paid commutation.
Sherman, Albert N.	1			9	600	In 1st Cavalry Reg't.
Shumway, Chandler C.	1			9	600	" " "
Toby, Henry A.	3			4		Discharged for disability.
Tooly, David A.	3		1	6		Died in service of disease.
Tooly, John H.	3		3		100	En'd for Wil'n, trans. to W'dham.
Tucker, John B.	3					Discharged for disability.
Warren, Chas.	3			6		
Wilcox, Luman C.		9		2	100	Died in service of disease.
Wilcox, John F.	1			9	600	
Wilcox, Zackary T.	1			9	600	
Wheeler, James W.	3		2	3		Reported as deserting.
Wrinkle, Thomas	3		1	6	300	
	271	6	131	9	24030	

Of the above list of men that were credited to the town of Whitingham, eighteen were non-residents of the town. Four were citizens of Massachusetts, one of the town of Read s boro, and thirteen were obtained from abroad, and their residence has not been ascertained. To the eighteen non-residents, the town paid $9415 bounty, and to the eighty-nine of

our own men was paid $14,615, averaging $523 and a fraction over to foreigners, and $164.21 to our own townsmen. The whole amount of credits by men mustered into the service is 271 1-2 years, and the time of actual service is 131 3-4 years. The credits by non-residents is 43 years, and the actual service 12 1-2 years.

The aggregate amount of bounties paid by the town to volunteers, and to men furnishing substitutes, is $31,030. The expense of procuring volunteers, and other incidental expenses connected with the raising of recruits in 1862-3 and 4, cannot be less than $1500, making the total amount $32,-530.

Besides the list of men credited to the town in the foregoing table, there are six men credited to Whitingham whose names are not given. They are probably substitutes furnished by enrolled men, and some at least, if not all, have entered the Naval service of the United States, instead of the Army.

Four men enrolled and liable to draft in Whitingham, enlisted in other towns. Winchester E. Holbrook enlisted in Hartford, Conn., was a prisoner for a long time, and came home sick, and died a short time after from disease contracted in the service. David Jillson enlisted in a Reg't in Massachusetts. James S. Bigelow enlisted in the town of Halifax, went into the 8th Reg't in the same Company with some of our men, and was killed at the battle of Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, '64. David Atherton enlisted in a New York Reg't, and was in Andersonville prison some eight months.

The enrolled men who furnished substitutes to the credit of the town for three years, are the following :

Ballou, Hosea B.,	Roberts, Benj. F.,
Chase, Joseph I.,	Roberts, Henry M.,
Chase, Royal,	Stetson, Albert C.,
Faulkner, Royal S.,	Stetson, Norris L.,
Faulkner, Willard, Jr.,	Upton, George N.,
Green, Eli T.,	Wheeler, George W.,
Roberts, Edward L.,	Wheeler, Ichabod N.

Each of these men received a town bounty of five hundred dollars.

In July, 1863, sixteen men were drafted from the town of Whitingham, fourteen of whom paid the $300 commutation as provided by a law of the United States, and one, Charles C. H. Williams, procured a substitute, and Selah H. Holbrook went into the service under the draft. The following are the men who paid commutation :

Blanchard, Henry S.,
Bliss, Alonzo S.,
Brown, Elliot A.,
Brown, Russell D.,
Corkins, Elisha J.,
Dix, Charles W.,
Dix, Joseph,
Fairbanks, Francis W.,
Faulkner, Levi B.,
Pierce, George H.,
Reed, Henry S.,
Stone, Charles O.,
Streeter, Joseph J.,
Wheeler, Thaddeus E.

Two of those who paid commutation, George H. Pierce and Joseph J. Streeter, afterwards volunteered and went into the service.

In many instances in this brief sketch of the soldiers from Whitingham, the only available source of information was the reports of the Adjutant and Inspector General of the State, and consequently are not so definite as would have been made had not my time to collect facts been so limited.

L. BROWN.

Whitingham, Feb. 23, 1867.

THE CENTRE VILLAGE.

THIS village, so long the centre of attraction and business interest for the whole town, fills a place in the history of Whitingham of more importance than those now on the stage of active life would suppose. For nearly half a century, during the most progressive period, it was the cherished centre for every section of the town. And not only that, but the most active, enterprising business place, to be found in this section of the county. Both secular and religious interests centered here, and all classes felt this to be the common centre of attraction. The old church, now ruthlessly destroyed, was built about the commencement of the present century, and was the pride of the whole town, for whose benefit it was erected, and for many years from two to four hundred devout worshipers, in the summer season, would assemble within its walls, on each returning Sabbath, to test their devotion to the religious ordinances of that age.

STORES AND MERCHANTS.

The first store in this immediate vicinity, of which we can find any account, was built by William and Joseph Goodnow, in 1804; on, or near, the site of the old store and hotel, the wreck of which still remains. They traded in company in their new store for two years, when William bought Joseph's interest and carried on the mercantile business there alone for several years after. He was succeeded by John Noyes and Adin Thayer, who traded there under the firm name of "Noyes and Thayer" till about 1816, when they

sold to Rev. Linus Austin and Asahel Booth, who traded under the firm name of "Austin & Booth" for a few years, when Austin sold his interest to Booth, and he did business alone for a number of years after that.

Meantime another store had been started on the lower side of the way, near where Henry Goodnow's dwelling house now stands. Ephraim Smith, who had been keeping a grocery store over at a place called the "Corners," near the late "Farmers' Inst. Co's." place of business, moved to the centre village, established a general store, and did an extensive business alone for a few years; and afterwards in company with George Boardman, under the firm name of "Smith & Boardman," for several years. They were succeeded by Emory Greenleaf and Royal Houghton, who traded on that side of the way, in the firm name of "Greenleaf & Houghton," till about 1820. This village and the whole town was rapidly gaining in population and wealth, and had already become a town of no small importance in the county and in the State. This was when cities and large towns and villages had no such magnetic attraction for enterprising young men as we witness in these more modern times. The best native talent was retained at home, to guide the public interest, and establish institutions indispensable to an exalted civilization.

Greenleaf & Houghton was succeeded on the lower side of the way by George Boardman; and it was there where Henry Goodnow, whose career as a merchant, and a citizen, is familiar to most of the people of this town, took his first lessons in the merchantile business. He worked as clerk under Boardman, till about 1833, when he bought out Boardman, and was the owner of the store, and responsible party in trade, on that side of the way ever after that. He did an extensive and profitable business for the next ten years, and accumulated a property, that with prudent management would have made him one of the most wealthy merchants in this part of the State. But his ambition for wealth, prompted him to invest too much in land speculations, and real estate securities in Readsboro, and other towns, when lands were high, and still rising; and this, together with some losses in

the lumbering and mill business in Hartwellville, and the extensive litigation in which he become involved, used up his spare capital; and the decline in the value of real estate, which he held too long in hopes of better prices, together with the accumulating taxes, and costs of litigation, which he was compelled to pay, has reduced him to a position that thirty-five years ago would have been thought impossible.

In 1824, or 1825, Eli Higley, long a resident and leading citizen of Whitingham, and an active, enterprising business man, formed a partnership with Asahel Booth, who was trading in the store built by Messrs. Goodnow, and built a new store and hotel near the old one first built. They did business under the firm name of "Higley & Booth," for two or three years after the completion of their new store; then Higley sold out to a Mr. Houghton, and the firm changed to "Houghton & Booth." They did a more extensive business in trade, for a few years, than any other store ever did in Whitingham. They continued trade there till George Boardman and Reuben Winn bought them out in 1833. The store was then run in the name of "Boardman & Winn" for a year or two, when Winn bought Boardman's interest, and run the store alone for a short time, when he took in Rufus Chase as a partner, and the store was run in the firm name of "Winn & Chase" till Chase died in 1846.

For nearly half a century before this, this hill had been the common business centre for the whole town, and for many years drew a large share of the trade of adjoining towns. There was a time when this hill was the most central mart for all kinds of merchandise known in this part of the county. The people all took an interest in its progress. A spirit of enterprising emulation pervaded all classes. The common people were of necessity industrious and economical in their habits; the theory of living upon other people's earnings had not yet become popular; few, if any, in this section of the country adopted that course. Manual labor was no dishonor to any class of citizens; even professional men could work on the farm a portion of the time without detriment to their professional standing. They duly appreciated its in-

vigorating effect on both their physical and mental powers.

And the whole people were bound together in fraternal feelings of sympathy for each other's welfare. "Every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost," had not become the paramount rule of action. If any were unfortunate, the whole neighborhood felt it a privilege, as well as a duty, to render charitable assistance. At that age the people, not only of this town but of all other towns in this part of the State, were a hardy, industrious, self-reliant race of people, depending entirely upon their own labor and their own resources for the support of themselves and their families. Farming was the almost exclusive business of the whole town, and the products of the soil and the growth of stock on the farm, afforded a liberal surplus annually to most of the inhabitants. Farming paid then, as well as other pursuits. Dairying business was then profitable, and almost every farmer was, to a greater or less extent, engaged in it. From five to twenty cows might be seen in every farmer's yard, besides a good flock of sheep, and other stock; mechanics and laborers were under no necessity of sending to city markets for the necessaries of life; the neighboring farmers had an ample supply of the finest quality.

The sound of the woodman's axe, and the noise of the flail, gave as much satisfaction, half a century ago, as the hum of machinery at the present time. So, too, the noise of the shuttle and the music of the spinning wheel, were cherished with as much delight by the ladies of that age, as that of the organ and piano of to-day. We cannot too greatly revere the memory of our fathers and mothers for their noble home virtues, and the lessons of economy they taught us; their industrious and persevering energy, and the graceful course they pursued in the culture of domestic economy, and the arts of civilization, in this then almost wilderness town. We of the present time can have but limited conceptions of the hardships and privations they cheerfully endured for the benefit of their posterity, and to found such institutions for human society as tend to an enlightened and progressive organization. May the successive generations ever be grateful for their exemplary wisdom in laying the found-

ations of social and progressive elements of the highest form of civilization in an undeveloped and growing township.

But to return to our narrative of the centre village. While this place remained the common centre of the whole town, the stores and hotel had all the business they could attend to, and scarce a day passed in the winter, when the weather was favorable, but that from ten to twenty-five teams might be seen there during the business hours of the day. It was no uncommon occurrence to have an hundred tierces of lime, bought and sold, in a single day. Mechanics too, of every occupation, were kept constantly busy to supply the wants of the farming classes, then more than twice as numerous as now. This was in the most progressive and prosperous days of the town; from 1815 to 1835. As early as 1838, the trade and business of this long cherished centre began to decline. Jacksonville began to be a place of some importance, and drew quite a share of the business from this common centre. About that time, Cyrus and Maturen Ballou conceived the idea of starting a store to be called the "Farmer's Interest Co." of which we shall give a more definite account hereafter.

In former times, when this hill was the common centre of attraction, on every public day the village would be thronged with people from every section of the town,—for the double purpose of conferring with each other upon social and business matters, and having a good time generally. Not the least enjoyable of these holiday gatherings for all classes, old and young alike, was "*June Training Day*," when almost the entire town would assemble; the young men for a jolly game of ball, and other athletic sports common in those days, and the old men to relate the news of the day, and enjoy a social chat over their glass of toddy and lemon punch, of which at that time it was no dishonor to partake.

On one of these training days, the boys as usual had taken their position on the public common for a game of ball, and when they had got nicely started in their game, the Captain of the militia company, feeling perhaps a little too proud of his authority, marched his men directly on to the grounds they occupied, evidently with a view of routing,

and driving them off. The boys, in the true spirit of "young America," loudly protested against such invasion of their supposed rights, but finally, with generous magnanimity yielded to the Captain, and took a position in the highway a little below. The Captain, elated with his success in routing the boys, after drilling his company a short time, marched them back into the highway, formed them into platoons with fixed bayonets, for the purpose of marching them down the road directly over the boys' new quarters. But this time they were determined to resist such unwarrantable encroachments of their rights. And as the Captain approached with his platoons covering the entire width of the highway, Jonas Brown, a tall, bony, athletic fellow (but having a bad impediment of speech,) stationed himself in the centre of the highway, ball club in hand, with his comrades on his left, and as the platoons approached, straightened himself up at full length, stamping his foot upon the ground, as if to give force to his order, exclaimed "*Hah, hah, half the road!*"

The Captain, paying no attention to his order, marched his men with their bayonets covering the whole road, intending to scare the boys off; but when they came within reach, they unceremoniously knocked the bayonets right and left with their ball clubs, and some of the soldiers were seen gathering themselves up from the ground amid the shouts and cheers of the crowd. The Captain, seeing the determination of the boys, and by the shouts and cheers of lookers on, finding their sympathies were with them, retreated in disorder. Chagrined at the defeat of his military prowess in routing the boys, he dispatched an orderly to the office of the local lawyer, John E. Butler, with his complaint, and for a warrant to arrest the ball players, for breach of peace, assault and battery, etc. But he was still more stumped, when his messenger returned with the opinion of the lawyer, that in view of the circumstances, he was the aggressor—that the boys had equally as good right to the public common, or highway, with their ball clubs, as he had with his bayonets. And finally the Captain, with his men, peaceably withdrew to another place to drill,—a wiser, if not a better man.

FARMERS' INTEREST STORE.

In 1837, or 1838, Cyrus and Maturen Ballou started a store at a place once called "The Corners," about one mile south of centre village. They had succeeded in getting quite a number of the enterprising farmers in different sections of the town, that had spare capital, to invest their money, and form themselves into a company by the name of "The Farmer's Interest Co.," and they constituted Cyrus Ballou, a general agent, to transact the business of the store in that name.

This store was run by Cyrus Ballou, on a large scale for a while. He and his subordinate clerks had every thing their own way; the confiding farmers, having the most implicit confidence in their management, troubled themselves verv little about the business of the store. Their credit being unquestioned in the markets and at home, their agents borrowed money in the name of the "Farmer's Interest Co." when they wanted it, and branched out to an unwarrantable extent, before the confiding farmers really knew what was being done at their store. This state of things continued about three years, when their creditors began to call for their pay; and it was soon found that the assets in the store would pay but a small proportion of the debts. The consequence was, attachments began to be served, not only on the goods in the store, but upon the property of four or five of the farmers, that had invested their money, and trusted their credit to incompetent agents.

Whether this disastrous failure was the result of neglect of duty, of incompetency, or of dishonesty, we do not pretend to say; the lesson it teaches is all the same. It is sufficient to know, that it clearly illustrates the folly of honest, industrious farmers trusting their money and their credit to the management of agents in business of which they know nothing of themselves. This failure, involving as it did, almost the complete ruin of Samuel Chase. John Parsons, Solomon Dix,

Ebenezer Waste, all thrifty and enterprising farmers, besides damaging the interests of some others better able to bear the loss, ought to be a warning to all honest laboring men, never to invest their money and credit in a business in which they have not been schooled.

Henry Goodnow and Reuben Winn, merchants at the centre village, very naturally rejoiced over the failure of the "Farmer's Interest Co.," for they had bitterly opposed it from the first start; partly because it conflicted with their own interest, and because it created an ill feeling not only between the agents of that store and themselves, but also between many of the friends of each of the rival competitors. Exultant over the downfall of their rivals, these merchants, and the other leading men at the centre village, at once began to exert themselves with renewed energy to again make that the common business centre for the whole town. With this object in view, in the winter of 1841, and 1842, they conceived the idea of building an Academy; thereby hoping to make this place the center of literary, as well as business attraction. A subscription paper was accordingly started for that purpose, and sufficient sums were readily obtained to warrant the undertaking. A building committee consisting of Reuben Winn, Foster Hartwell, and John E. Butler, were chosen, and directed to contract for the building, and have it completed the next summer, in time to have a fall term of school therein. Accordingly they contracted with Leonard Brown and Moses Fuller, to erect and finish the building by the first dayof September, 1842.

The building was completed within the time specified, and a Mr. Kellom was employed as principal of the school for the fall term of that year. This institution, together with the efforts of the principal citizens in that locality, tended strongly to attract the attention of the inhabitants of the town to that once cherished centre for two or three years, while the school was kept up; but when they failed to support a school regularly, and the inevitable decrease of business in that village became more and more apparent, the Academy building was neglected, and the apparatus therein, of which there was a very well-selected assortment of the

value of two hundred dollars or more, was by degrees destroyed or stolen, and the building itself, for want of care or apparent interest to look after and protect it, soon showed signs of decay, and became a prey to vandal hands. And the School District (then No. 10) that owned a good schoolroom in the lower story of the building, finding it hard to support a school with the few remaining families, petitioned the town to be divided up and set to adjoining districts.

When this was done, the Academy building, and most of the other buildings in that once flourishing village, went rapidly to destruction. No place in this part of the state has so much changed in appearance, and its importance as a business centre, for the last half century, as the centre of the town of Whitingham. From an active, thriving business mart, for every species of merchandise, it has been reduced to a few dilapidated, broken-down, and unoccupied old buildings, that nobody has sufficient interest in to clear off the rubbish that marks the spot where they once stood. This, however, is not an index of degeneracy in the people of the present time; nor does it indicate any lack of enterprise or ambition, even in those that once lived in that locality, and for a time used their best efforts to retain that place as a common centre for the business of the town. The best business talent moved to other and more favorable localities. But the town as a whole, has never been so united and prosperous since that hill was abandoned, as when that, by common consent, was the business centre for the whole. The rival competition between the villages of Sadawga and Jacksonville is of all things the most directly calculated to engender strifes and bad feeling amongst the people. Sectional strife and its attendant evils amongst a people bound together in one corporate body, whether great or small, inevitably creates feelings of jealousy and distrust that jeopardize the progress of opposing sections, and thereby work an injury to the prosperity of the whole body corporate.

It may be doubted, not without cause, whether the ruling element of the town of Whitingham at the present day, are possessed of that sterling integrity, that persevering energy, and rectitude of moral principle, that marked the course of

our progenitors, even if we go back but one or two generations before us. When we call to mind the memory of such men as Amos Brown, John Roberts, Elisha Putnam, Eli Higley, Samuel Preston, Asa Godfrey, Abraham Chase, Obed Foster, Nehemiah Sabin, James Roberts, John Brigham, Ebenezer Waste, Caleb Bemis, Rufus Carley, Alfred Green, William Stone, Lot Sibley, Phineas Sawyer, and many other prominent men that guided the destinies of the town in its most prosperous days, we are led to inquire, where are their substitutes? And if we turn our attention to the religious element of the town, and contrast it with that time, the same difference at once appears. Where are those that fill the places of Dea. Jonas Brown, James Warren, Walter and David Eames, Thaddeus Thayer, Abiathar Winn, Edmund Bemis, Ebenezer Davis, Ambrose Stone, Josiah W. Tainter, and many others that were shining lights in the church, and whose exemplary lives furnished a safe guide for all?

Much has been said of our early fathers, and we cannot think of them too often or too highly. Many of them lived in times that tried men's souls. Poets and orators often rehearse the record of their noble deeds, and the sufferings, privations, and hardships they endured in the early settlement of our town, the sacrifices they made for the good of posterity, and the lessons they left us, by example as well as precept. But while we remember with grateful hearts their many worthy acts, and the persevering energy they manifested in surmounting the difficulties that surrounded them in this sparsely settled wilderness, we should not overlook the even braver deeds and the greater self-sacrifices of our early mothers, whose untiring efforts for the welfare and comfort of those around them, and whose devoted and Christian spirit lighting up their pathway of life, reflected a hallowed influence in the formation of civilized society. Their wise counsel, their sympathy, grace, culture, and good sense, rendered a powerful influence in guiding the people of that age in the ways of truth and righteousness. The people of that or any other age, might learn valuable lessons of wisdom by heeding their precepts, and following their

examples. The industry and economy they practised, their ever willing hands to assist the needy, the cheerful and contented lives they led, and the constant care for the welfare and comfort of their children and all under their charge, and for establishing a higher plane of civilization in this lone wilderness town, were examples which we should do well to remember. We can but revere the memory of those early mothers that patiently endured the toils and privations incident to all new settlements, and the fidelity with which they improved every opportunity their rude homes afforded to build up an exalted Christian community. Amongst those sainted mothers were Catherine Eames, Lucy Winn, Betsey and Sarah Brown, Dorcas Sabin, Paulina Warren, Leah Olden, Lydia Waste, Rebecca Brigham, ——— Sawyer, Molly Tainter, and many others that guided the future destinies of the ambitious and enterprising young men that have since gone out from Whitingham, and have attained positions in the world that are an honor to any town or state.

We regret to say that farming, the most productive business of a back mountain town, has lamentably deteriorated in Whitingham for the last forty-five years. And not only in this town, but in most other towns in this part of the county as well. Since the facilities for travel and freight have become so rapid and easy by steam, and the tendency to concentrate all business transactions into large companies and corporations, it has drained these back towns of their best and most enterprising young men, which must inevitably retard the progress and prosperity of towns, and tend to lower the social and enterprising standard of the people. A careful observation of our own town shows more than fifty farms that half a century ago were owned and cultivated by thrifty and industrious farmers, that are now abandoned, their buildings mostly demolished, and a large majority of these farms are now comparatively worthless.

Unless something can be done soon to stimulate and encourage the farmers and other producing classes, these towns will inevitably continue to degenerate, and their inhabitants will very naturally lapse backward to a lower form of civilization. If they could have equal facilities for travel and

transportation of their products to the large towns and cities, with those towns through which railroads are running, they would be equally as enterprising and progressive. The spirit of emulation, inherent in our people, would at once spring up amongst our farmers and laboring men, that now finds no adequate motive for energetic action. The spirit of speculation, and the art of living upon the earnings of others, has a strong hold of the young men of the present day, and leads them to ignore the idea of tilling the soil, or the fancied hardships of manual labor. Their habits of fast living, and premature adolescence, render the status of human society materially different from former times. Making all due allowance for the tenacity with which old people are prone to cling to the customs and habits of their younger days, we are constrained to believe there is a great lack of genuine philanthropy, fraternal feeling of friendship, true Christian charity, and deep feeling of interest for each other's welfare amongst the people, even in this town, in comparison with former times.

And if we turn our attention to the intellectual development, in comparison to the opportunities of fifty years ago, we find no less a marked contrast in the persevering effort of young men to acquire a useful education, than there is in the industrial and persevering energy in farming and mechanical pursuits. Notwithstanding the enlarged facilities for schooling and other means of literary culture, it is a lamentable fact, that our boys and young men, from the ages of fifteen to twenty-five, are not as good scholars, taken as a whole, as those of the same age were fifty years ago. This is by no means an encouraging state of things for this boasting age of progression and improvement. Why should this be so? Can it be possible that our people are degenerating in intellectual power? Or that they are becoming more indifferent to the worth of intelligence to the common citizen? With the multiplicity of books, papers and magazines, the cause can only be attributed to a diversity of other objects of attraction, that induces young people to neglect the stern necessity of self-culture, and self-reliance. The books that were mostly sought for at the time to which

we allude, were of a different character from most of those published at the present time. And they were read with more care, and for the sole purpose of acquiring substantial information. Young people at that time sought to obtain knowledge from minds superior to their own. Many of the books they read, were the productions of the distant dead, and served to make them heirs of the intellectual researches of past ages. They gave to all who carefully and diligently perused them, access to the thoughts and character of the greatest of our race. No matter how humble the position of a young man, or how rude his dwelling place, if the talented and beneficent authors could find a place there—if a Milton could be read, or a Shakespeare, to unfold the world of imagination, and the wondrous workings of the human mind; or a Franklin to enrich the student with lessons of practical wisdom; or a Washington, or a Jefferson, to teach the earnest solicitude, and unflinching integrity of patriotic statesmen, they could content themselves to spend their evenings and leisure hours in studying those eminent authors, with as much satisfaction as in useless recreations, and at the same time, store the mind with a substantial knowledge.

The prevalent tendency of the present age to concentration must inevitably impair individual independence, which is the true basis of our form of government. Self-reliance is an indispensable requisite to the progress, not only of individuals, but of subordinate communities. It is a mistaken idea, that a republican form of government can best prosper where the masses are guided or controlled by a few more enlightened and aspiring minds. No republic can long endure where the many are controlled by the few. Nor can any town or other community better prosper, where all productive business transactions are conducted by a few leading men. It is alike destructive to individual enterprise and the force and stimulus to productive industry, or the ambition to obtain the required literary and political knowledge a free and independent citizen ought to possess. Where the power of a government emanates from the whole people, the intelligence and free action of the populace is the only safety.

It is a grave mistake to suppose a town, or any other organized community, great or small, can best prosper, either in social or pecuniary progress, where a concentration of its capital or management is permanently controlled by one central head. Observation confirms the fact, that towns, however great or small, attain their highest degree of progress where the property is most equally divided, and where each individual controls his own. To be independent we must be self-reliant, we must employ ourselves ; no one has a right to suppose that another is under any obligation to furnish him with the means of earning a support. One that does not rely upon his own ability, and his own resources for support, is virtually a slave to the community in which he lives. He has no claim to independence, and is unworthy the name and sacred rights of a freeman.

In 1833, before the centre village had any serious opposition from any quarter of the town, the novel enterprise of building a belfrey to the old church on the hill, was started.

THE BUILDING OF THE BELFREY TO OLD CHURCH.

In the winter of 1833–4, the project of building a belfrey to the old church in the centre of the town, was started by the leading men in that vicinity. A subscription paper for that purpose was drawn up, and circulated amongst the people of the town, without regard to religious, or party preference ; and all classes at once manifested a commendable zeal in this novel enterprise. A sufficient amount in money, labor, and building material, was subscribed to warrant the undertaking.

Alfred Green and Enoch R. Bowen, then the principal carpenters in town, made a bill of timber necessary for the frame, which was soon got out and drawn to the spot. John Brigham, living in District No. 1, in the southeast corner of the town, and the most efficient leader in that section of the

town, took hold of the matter with his usual energy, determined to push the building forward. Aided by others in the same District, liberal subscriptions and donations were procured in that remote part of town, which stimulated the people of other sections to renewed exertions, and the building went ahead as rapidly as possible. And as early in the spring as the weather would admit, the structure was framed, under the superintendence of Alfred Green and E. R. Bowen; they, and not Alfred Green, Jr., (as Mr. Jillson says in his Centennial Address) were the architects; Alfred Green, Jr. at the time he puts the building of this "historic structure," being a lad less than eighteen years old.

The raising of this memorable edifice drew out a large crowd from all parts of the town, who volunteered their services in this supposed difficult task. In those days it was the universal custom on such occasions, to have plenty of stimulus, to nerve the operators for a full display of their strength and skill to perform the work in hand. And this was no exception to the rule. But the didactic orator of the Centennial Celebration of 1880, does injustice to his mission, by insinuating that any part of that crowd "became so confused" as not to speak the English language intelligibly, or that any of the overseers left their places till the frame was completed. Nor was it by any means true, that Alfred Green, Jr., and David Jillson, Jr., were the only persons that could be trusted at that altitude. There were scores of others there, fully as competent, and quite as efficient, at any stage of the work, or at any altitude, and were by no means inferior in strength and agility, in any position required.

This renowned urban orator was equally at fault, in his account of the breaking and final removing of the bell, to the belfrey of the Methodist Church in the village of Sadawga. He puts the building of this belfrey in 1832, and proceeds with sarcastic derision to say, "One third day of July, near midnight, the patriotism of Whitingham became so intensified as to make the tones of this bell appear exceedingly faint. There was a blacksmith near by, who fancied that the Whitingham bell was high enough to be heard around the world, if it was scientifically vibrated. He

therefore ascended the belfrey at that solemn hour, sledge hammer in hand, and the hope of the approval of a grateful Republic coursing through his loyal brain. He struck at that bell with desperate precision, but the responsive tone he expected to hear was not the tone he did hear. The blow was fatal; the bell was cracked, and had to be re-cast. After it had been renewed, it was carried to Sadawga and hung in the belfrey of the Methodist church, under an agreement that the church owners should never acquire a title to it by possession."

From this, the reader must naturally infer that all this occurred in 1832; and that the carrying of the bell to Sadawga was upon its being re-cast, and by agreement of parties interested. All this is wrong; nothing could be farther from the truth. The bell was not cracked in the manner he indicates, nor was it carried to Sadawga by any agreement, either with the subscribers for its purchase, or by the authorities of the town, but without the knowledge or consent of either, and without a shadow of right.

Mr. Jillson does injustice to the memory of Mr. Sprague, the blacksmith alluded to, as well as to the good people of Whitingham. Thirty-five years of city life has so elevated his train of thought, that the people of his native town are now treated with haughty derision. No blacksmith ever ascended the belfrey at the "solemn hour" of midnight that the bell might be "scientifically vibrated" nor has the patriotism of Whitingham ever been so "intensified" as to make her people imagine that their bell was high enough to be heard around the world, or displayed itself in such overheated zeal, as to attempt to celebrate the anniversary of our National Independence in the night following the third day of July.

The simple facts in relation to the belfrey and bell, are as follows: The belfrey was finished in the summer of 1834; Benjamin Bosworth was hired to do the work. A bell was soon procured weighing 930 pounds, and was paid for by subscription, and hung in its place in the belfrey. And Nehemiah Sprague, then living near the old church, was employed to ring it at noon, and at 9 o'clock, P. M. week

days ; and at the proper hours for religious services Sundays, and on funeral occasions. He performed this service to the satisfaction of the people for several years at the expense of the town. The bell was cracked while tolling at the funeral of Martha Hall, daughter of Barney Hall, who died August 17, 1837.

The bell was soon after taken down, sent back to the foundry and exchanged for another weighing 1105 pounds. The new bell was shipped and hung in the belfrey and rung for many years afterwards. But when the business interest left the centre village for Jacksonville and Sadawga, the regular ringing was abandoned, but the bell hung quietly in its place for a long time after, till the Methodist church at Sadawga was built in 1860 and '61.

Some of the leading citizens of that village conceived the idea of taking the bell from the old church on the hill, and appropriating it to their own use, or for the benefit of the Methodist church. They accordingly executed their plans by secretly taking down the bell and removing it to Sadawga, without any regard to the rights of the original proprietors, or the rights the town had acquired by more than 20 years uninterrupted possession and almost constant use. This bell was eventually hung in the belfry of the new Methodist church, and they have since used it as if by divine right.

So, too, the bell that hung in the belfry of the Academy building on the hill, that was bought by private subscription, and still owned by the subscribers, was stealthily and unwarrantably taken from its place, and hung on the schoolhouse in the village of Sadawga, in 1872. These bells were both taken and appropriated without a color of right, and in a manner that reflects no credit to the town, or principle of right, in the parties concerned in their disingenuous removal and appropriation.

In the palmiest days of this village, and the most prosperous of the town, many distressing events must be recorded, some of which were the direct results of habits of intoxication, from which no stage of the town's history has been entirely free.

The habits of dissipation, and the too free use of intoxicating liquors, was steadily fixing its clutches on too many of the leading, industrious, and worthy citizens—men that had braved the perils and endured the hardships incident to all new settlements, had cleared up their farms, and established pleasant and comfortable homes for themselves and their families. In the hope of its serving as a warning to future generations, we give the sad effects of this habit, and the casualties it produced in some instances, that come under our own observation. The lamentable, and in some instances fatal, effects of intoxication, becomes a part of the town's history, and public justice requires they should be noted in these pages.

Deliverance Wheeler, one of the thrifty and enterprising farmers that settled in this town a little before the commencement of the present century, came from Bolton, Mass., bought a large farm in the then unbroken forest in that section of the town, cleared a little spot and built a rude dwelling place, and tradition has it that when he moved into this town for a permanent residence, he brought all his outfit and effects in a small cart drawn by a white cow. He was a man of extraordinary physical endurance, industrious and frugal in his habits, rapidly cleared up and improved his farm, and accumulated a large property, and for many years was called the wealthiest farmer in town. But towards the latter part of his life, his habits of dissipation, which for a long time had been growing more confirmed, increased so much that he was apt to get intoxicated every time he went up to the centre village.

In the spring of 1830, about planting time, he was up there one day and got unusually "full," and stayed round there till dark before he started for home. And the night being quite dark, and not being in a condition to keep the road as well as usual, by some means he got out into the lot, and strolled about a while not knowing exactly where he was, till he finally got into Sadawga pond, and floundered about awhile where the water was nearly waist deep without the slightest knowledge of which way to steer to reach the shore, till at length he ran against an old log that lay partly under wa-

ter; with much effort he succeeded in getting on to that, where he could sit partly out of water, and remained in that situation till morning, before his cries for help were heard.

Early in the morning, John Kingsbury, the nearest neighbor to where he was, heard his cries while going to his barn to feed his team. He went immediately to the spot from whence the cry came, and at once took in the situation and saw who it was, and called for more help. Meanwhile he waded into the pond to where he was, and with much effort succeeded in getting him to the shore, exhausted and benumbed, and almost entirely helpless. But with the one or two others, who had by that time reached the place, they took him to the house of Mr. Kingsbury, and promptly administered to his necessities. And in a short time, by rubbing and the application of warm cloths, and giving him a little stimulant, they revived him to full consciousness. In the course of the forenoon he was so much revived they carried him home.

Having a strong constitution he soon recovered from the effects of this unpleasant bath, and in a few days was out again as smart as ever. And many times afterwards he would relate, for the amusement of the boys at the centre village, the music of the bull frogs through that dreadful night. He said, "I was compelled to bear the taunts and jeers of these croakers through all the tedious hours of that memorable struggle between life and death. One on my right would cry out, 'Old Dill, old Dill!' others on my left would say, 'What's up, what's up?' and occasionally some would chime in a chorus of 'More rum, more rum.' They were apparently holding a jubilee over my misfortunes that was almost provoking."

About a year later, when the story of the bull frogs had got a little stale to the boys at the centre village, and they wanted something new, they unwittingly conceived the idea of having a little sport at his expense, when he was so badly intoxicated he knew but little what was being said or done; so they got him into an old lime hogshead with one head out, and set it rolling down the hill from Henry Goodnow's store towards Sadawga pond, and it rolled furiously down

the hill, over the stones and ridges in the rough road for a long distance, giving him severe bruises, which they by no means designed to do. He was so badly bruised they were obliged to get a team and carry him home. And he never fully recovered from the shock. He was taken sick a short time after, but whether that was the cause of his sickness we will not presume to say. His career and untimely death is but one of the long list of casualties brought about by the inordinate use of alcoholic stimulants. He died June 11, 1831, aged 56.

Another still more distressing casuality in consequence of intoxication occurred in the winter of 1833. James Upton, an industrious and worthy citizen in the prime of life, an excellent mechanic (carpenter and joiner,) a kind husband and father, intelligent and ambitious, for some unaccountable cause, had not sufficient control over his appetite for strong drink to prevent habitual fits of intoxication. On one of these occasions, he went up to the centre village, on a cold day in February and stayed round the stores and hotel all day, indulging his propensity for stimulants quite too freely, till late in the evening, when he started out for his home about one and a half miles distant, he strolled about the common, and to all appearance the next morning, by blood spots on the ice and frozen ground, falling down occasionally till he got so benumbed with cold, he finally lay down to sleep the sleep of death. He was found in the morning but a short distance from the hotel from whence he started out, frozen as solid as a stone.

It is by no means a pleasant task to record the numerous scenes of sorrow, and the wreck of human happiness ; the blasted hopes, and worse than fatal consequences of the inordinate use of alcholic stimulants, in every stage of the town's history. Though not worse than other towns, the instances of ruin to the brightest prospects and fondest hopes ; the suffering horrors and premature deaths, stand thick along the pathway of its history, a warning to the present and future generations. Since the great cry of 1826, when the temperance reform started in New England, and a Hewitt, a Beecher, and a Kittredge boldly proclaimed we were becom-

ing a nation of drunkards, there have been earnest and efficient advocates of temperance, and those who have stood as beacon lights to warn the people of the dangerous effects of tampering with intoxicating drinks. They have only been able at times, to temporarially check the swelling tide of evil engendered by the indulgence for an unnatural appetite for alcoholic liquors. It is humiliating indeed to recall to mind, the loss of property, the moral and social degradation, the absolute loss of character, and premature death, of so many noble specimens of humanity, to say nothing about the innumerable train of poverty and ignorance, caused by the too free use of alcholic beverages, even in our own town.

CASUALTIES.

On the 4th day of July, 1834, Daniel Wheeler, a man of dissipated habits being on the west side of Deerfield river. in attempting to wade the river to go up to the centre village, from some cause lost his balance, fell down in the water and was drowned. Whether he was so intoxicated at that time, as to be unable to manage himself, we have no means of knowing, but it was presumed by some at that time, that that was the case. Several other fatal casualties have occurred in the town of Whitingham since our own recollection, but we can recall no others resulting directly from habits of drunkenness.

In the fall of 1832, Alton Streeter, a much respected citizen was instantly killed by the caving in of a sand bank where he was digging sand. In the spring of 1832, Charles H. Dennison, a noted man in town affairs at the time, though not a long resident of Whitingham, fell from the frame at the raising of Stephen Putnam's barn, was fatally injured, lived but a few days after the accident.

Tyler Hicks, the noted hotel keeper at Sadawga, and afterwards at Jacksonville, was drowned while bathing in

the mill-pond at Jacksonville, on the evening of June 29, 1874. Asa Smith, a child of Elijah Smith, about ten years old was fatally scalded by falling backwards into a kettle of boiling water in the winter of 1820, he lived but a few hours after the accident.

CHURCH HISTORY.

ALTHOUGH the Methodist church organization, has never been the leading religious denomination in the town of Whitingham, since the Baptist church was formed, in 1808, it undoubtedly held precedence of any other religious organization. We have been able to find no authentic records of the early history of that church in this town, but from statistics in possession of Rev. Hubbard Eastman, it is evident, that a church or society of that faith and order, was formed in Whitingham, earlier than any other religious sect. From the published proceedings of the Vermont Methodist State Convention, held at Montpelier, September 20th and 21st, 1870, and the historical statistics therein recorded, we find that the Whitingham Circuit was one of the three first formed in the State. The writer of the proceedings of that convention says, "The first Circuit in Vermont, was the Vershire, formed in 1796, to which Nicholas Snethen was appointed, who was the first Methodist preacher, regularly sent to the State." He further says, "it appears in the minutes of 1799, that three new Circuits had been formed, viz., Essex, Windsor,—now West Windsor—and Whitingham; the later of which, returned fifty-five members."

The Circuit called "the Whitingham Circuit," was that part of the Pittsfield, Mass., Circuit, lying in Vermont, and prospered greatly under the labors of the Rev. Peter Vannest. Previous to this time, however, we learn from reliable sources, that a religious organization, called "the Seven Day Baptists" was formed in Whitingham, but we can find no records that warrant the conclusion, that any church by

that name was formed, or that any religious organization existed in Whitingham, for any great length of time, under that name.

We give here the names of the Methodist ministers that have preached in Whitingham, under the direction of the Methodist Episcopal Annual Conference. In 1799, Peter Vannest ; in 1800, Michael Coats, Joseph Michell ; in 1801, Daniel Bromley ; in 1802, Elijah Ward, Asa Kent ; in 1803, Phineas Peck, Caleb Dustin ; in 1804, John Tinkham ; in 1805, Ebenezer Fairbanks, David Goodhue ; in 1806, Laban Clark ; in 1807, Andrew McKain, Major Curtis ; in 1808, Reuben Harris, Cyprian H. Gridley ; in 1809 and 1810, Samuel Cochran ; in 1811, Reuben Harris, Cyrus Culver ; in 1812, Cyrus Culver, John Reynolds ; in 1813, Andrew McKain, Stephen Richmond ; in 1814, Gilbert Lyon, Daniel Breyton ; in 1815, David J. Wright, Phineas Dean ; in 1816, Samuel Eighmey, Sherman Minor. The minutes and records show no preacher sent to Whitingham, by the Methodist Annual Conference, from 1816 to 1843.

During this period a church or organization was formed, under the lead of Rev. Ebenezer Davis, a native of Whitingham, called "The Reformed Methodists," that had quite a strong following, and wielded a salutary influence in the religious element of the town, for a long while in its most prosperous days. Elder Davis was a sincere, devoted Christian, spent a long and useful life in Whitingham, and the history of his career is very appropriately expressed in the words carved on his tombstone, " He went about doing good." He preached in Whitingham for more than half a century, always drawing attentive and respectable congregations, although a large proportion of his meetings were held at school and private houses, in every section of the town.

It appears from the minutes and records, that those itinerant preachers sent to Whitingham by the Methodist Annual Conference, had many difficulties to encounter. Strong opposition to these Ministers, not of the people's choice, was often engendered, and the prejudices of most of the people of that age were incited, and even ridicule was sometimes cast upon them and their followers, at that early stage of the

town's history. The Rev. Asa Kent, long since gone to his reward, who was sent here in 1802, relates an incident, in one of their meetings in Whitingham, as given in the record of the Vermont Methodist State Convention at Montpelier, in September, 1870. In the early history of the Methodist denomination in Whitingham, Rev. Mr. Kent is quoted as saying : "One important office at that day, was the Tithingman, who, armed with a long rod, at once weapon and staff of office, presided over the Sabbath congregations, with full power to remind unwary hearers by a thrust from his wand, of any undue disposition to sleep, or other indiscretion."

"In the town of Whitingham," says Mr. Kent, "the population was sparse, but they had a shell of a meeting-house with rough boards for seats ; and having no minister the Methodists were invited to occupy it on the Sabbath. Their preachers gave general satisfaction, except some of them spoke *too loud.* But there was a sore grievance, which called for a speedy remedy. Methodists in those days were often heard to respond to the preacher by an audible *Amen;* and at other times to exclaim '*Glory to God.*' This was so different from the still small voice, it was judged by some to be an *intolerable disorder.* While some of the people were devising a remedy, one more wise than his fellows, intimated that if he was Tithingman, he would put a stop to such confusion. The next town-meeting appointed Mr. A.—for I shall so call him—to that office. He pledged his *oath* for his fidelity, and requested the magistrate to give him definite instructions how to proceed. 'Why,' said the Squire, 'it is your duty to keep them still in time of religious worship.' 'But what if they wont *be* still ?' inquired the young officer. 'Then have your staff, and rap them on the head.' This was enough ; and he prepared his staff, which was a badge of his power. These staves were six or seven feet in length, that the officer might reach the offender without leaving his place. As there were no pews in the meeting-house, the men sat together on one side, and the women on the other. Sabbath came, and Mr. A. walked in, staff in hand, and took his seat in the midst of the brethren. This was an eventful hour. He was about to make his debut under the

scrutinizing eyes of his constituents. To add to his calamities, it was quarterly meeting, and the members in those days would travel a great distance on such occasions. Bostwick was the Presiding Elder, himself a host, and Joseph Michell the Circuit preacher. When prayer was offered all the Methodists fell upon their knees—this was formerly the universal custom; but our young officer stood up, staff in hand, to suppress disorder. A brother said 'Amen,' and was immediately rapped on the head. Another, and another said 'Amen,' and each felt the rap. There was a shower of salvation before the preacher closed his prayer; some shouted '*Glory*,' others '*Amen*,' but each in turn felt the rap. And to do this, Mr. A. sometimes reached as far as he could to the right, then to the left, for they were kneeling around him so thick, he could not move. This exhibition was fine sport for a certain class of the congregation, while our members seemed to care nothing about it.

During the preaching our *lover of order*, had new difficulties to contend with. When they had knelt with their eyes closed, he stood and wielded his authority with great adroitness; but now, he is seated with them, and even his love of order is not sufficient to induce him to stand up and rap the heads of the disorderly. But when a faithful officer cannot do all he would, he will not yield the point till he has done what he could. Mr. A. fixed his eye upon Brother S. Carpenter of Rowe, Mass., as one of the disorderly; and tried to bring him to a better state of mind. Brother C. was a man of ardent spirit, and a warm heart, and although he had crossed the line of the old 'Bay State,' never dreamed the Vermont Statute prohibited shouting, and of course, felt himself perfectly at home amongst his brethren. He sat on a seat before our officer, about the length of his rod, the end of which was placed under his side, and whenever Brother C. shouted, he would give him a nudge under the short ribs. But the power of God was present to quicken and sanctify his children, and great was their rejoicing. Brother C. was gazing at the preacher, with tears flowing from his eyes; after giving vent to an overflowing heart by shouts of '*Glory;*' while our young official would give him a jerk for each

transgression. This ludicrous persecution continued sometime to the amusement of lookers-on ; but to the no small annoyance of the devout worshipers. And the latter, comprehending the situation, took the most effectual way of rebuking it. The earnest supplications of a Methodist prayer-meeting were perilous to the self-possession of gainsayers. The Tithingman was foiled ; he retreated from his official functions, the jests of his associates were turned upon him, and he appeared no more with staff of office, to compel the Methodists to keep the peace."

Notwithstanding the perils and persecutions attending the labors of these itinerant preachers and pioneers of the Methodist denomination, in the sparsely inhabited districts of Vermont, they were persevering in their efforts, and revivals of religious feeling and interest was the result of their fiery zeal. We can but venerate the names and honor the labors of those self-denying men who braved the hardships, and endured the scoffs incident to all innovations of established customs and habits, even of forms of religious worship. Their unremitting exertions, and indefatigable labors in the cause they espoused, left luminous marks of success along the valleys and on the hill-tops, in almost every town, our own town being one of the most fertile fields for this new religious sect. Long will these devoted Christians of the first decade of the present century hold a place in the affectionate memory of the pious and the good.

In 1843, the Whitingham Circuit was revived, and the Annual Conference took measures to supply the people with preaching. The Rev. John L. Smith was assigned the pastorate for that year. The records show no preacher sent to this town, from that time, till 1849, when the Rev. Mr. Smith, was again sent here, and preached in 1849 and 1850. Preaching was not supplied by the Annual Conference all the time since that date, but we give the names of the Ministers, and the years they preached in Whitingham. In 1852, John Taylor ; in 1858, Moses Spencer ; in 1859, Michael R. Chase ; in 1860 and 1861, Zenas Kingsbury ; in 1865 and 1866, John S. Little ; from 1867 to 1872, Hubbard Eastman ; in 1873, J. H. Gaylord ; in 1874, E. H. Bartlett ; in 1875,

Hubbard Eastman ; in 1877, 1878 and 1879, R. B. Fay ; in 1880, F. T. Lovett ; in 1881 and 1882, J. Hamilton.

The Methodists have never, since the organization of the Baptist church, in 1808, been the leading religious denomination in the town of Whitingham. Although they have ostensibly built two churches, one at the village of Sadawga, in 1861, and one at Jacksonville, both were built mostly by subscriptions from the local inhabitants, outside the Methodist church or society. More especially that at Jacksonville, built in 1866 and '67, but a comparatively small proportion of the funds required, was obtained from the Methodists. At times the Methodist Episcopal church and society has prospered, and exerted a healthy and salutary influence over the inhabitants of the town, but the former religious influence of the Methodist Episcopal church and society, have been rapidly waning in Whitingham, for the last decade, till now it has almost entirely lost its prestige amongst the people. Religious institutions, like all others, when they are guided by inefficient or unscrupulous leaders, are sure to fail of good results. A few years ago, the church and society of Jacksonville was in a prosperous and hopeful condition, and bid fair to exert a salutary influence in elevating the moral standard of the people in that vicinity. Where now is their influence ? Or where their prospects of advancing the genuine principles of Christianity ? When selfishness displaces liberality, and a too strong desire to rule obscures the mind of the principal members of any church, or other organization, disastrous results will follow. Unless something can be done to allay the strifes and bitter feelings amongst the former members of the Methodist church in Jacksonville, their influence on the morals of the rising generation can only tend to depress their moral standing.

BAPTISTS.

We can find no authentic record of any religious organization in the town of Whitingham, till after the commence-

ment of the present century ; but from the best information obtainable, the Methodists had sent preachers into this then sparsely settled town, from the Methodist General Conference, before that time. There was also a portion of the inhabitants that called themselves Seven Day Baptists, but we can find no account of any organization by name. Quite a proportion of the first settlers were Universalists, and there were also some Congregationalists ; but at the commencement of this century there was undoubtedly more Baptists than of any other religious sect. The Congregationalists formed a church earlier than any other denomination that we can find any record of. But that church, formed in 1804, embodied the religious sentiments of comparatively few of the inhabitants at that time, and did not long exist as a church organization.

The Baptist was the first permanent church organization established in this town. It was organized in 1808, and its records have been very well kept to the present time. We give an account of its formation as shown by the records.

FORMATION OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

"At Whitingham, Sept. 8, 1808, a number of the Baptist brethren met according to previous appointment, and first took under consideration the duty we owe to God, opened our meeting by prayer, then proceeded to consider the duties we owe to each other, and of the local distance of sister churches, and considering church privileges and our desires for the advancement of God's kingdom in the world. After these serious considerations, we mutually agreed to form ourselves into a church, if thought expedient by council ; proceeded to choose Walter Eames to serve as Clerk, and agreed to send to four Baptist churches to assist in imboding said church, viz.: First Guilford, First Coleraine, Heath and Halifax.

These brethren, after due consultation, finally fixed the

18th day of October next as the time to call the council for the purpose indicated, and adjourned their meeting to that date. And on the 18th day of October, 1808, the council met at the meeting-house in Whitingham Centre, according to the previous request of these brethren, consisting of the four churches above named, by their Pastors and delegates, and after solemn prayer to God for direction, proceeded to examine the articles of faith and covenant presented by the brethren present, and voted to accept them. The brethren and sisters that assented to them, and subscribed their names, were as follows :

BROTHERS.

Josiah Brown,	Walter Eames,
William Franklin,	Jonas Brown,
Joseph Olden,	James Carpenter,
James Warren,	Joseph Brown,
Joseph Stone,	Joel B. Eames.

SISTERS.

Milicent Brown,	Katharine Eames,
Sarah Franklin,	Lois Brown,
Leah Olden,	Esther Eames,
Susanna Howe,	Dorcas Sabin,
Lucy Tarbell,	Olive Eames,

Esther Eames, 2d.

The council, after due consideration of their religious experience and baptism, voted to give them fellowship as a church of Christ in Gospel order. They then adjourned till the 18th day of November next, at the same place to perfect their organization. "On the 11th day of November," as the records show, "a meeting was held agreeable to adjournment, and opened by prayer. Josiah Brown was chosen Moderator, and Walter Eames, Clerk, read the articles of faith and covenant, and they were mutually received as ours. Chose Jonas Brown to serve as Deacon of the church. Voted that Deacon Brown provide books and other articles useful in church at the church's expense." Rev. John Spaulding had been preaching to the people here sometime before

this organization, and continued his labors by common consent.

At a church meeting on the 10th day of March, 1809, it was agreed that Elder Spaulding continue his labors with the church and people, and chose Deacon Jonas Brown and Walter Eames a committee to see to the matter of compensation for his services. And they agreed with him to preach through that season.

At a meeting in September of that year, the church being desirous to join the association then called the "Leyden Association," requested their Pastor, Rev. Mr. Spaulding, to draft a letter to the Association setting forth their request. At the same meeting they dismissed Walter Eames as Clerk, and appointed Nathan Brown in his stead. They also voted to call a council to ordain Rev. Mr. Spaulding, and to set apart Wednesday next as a day of prayer and fasting.

A council was called to meet October 17, 1809, and accordingly met agreeable to such call, and after an examination as to his religious faith, and his knowledge of the Scriptures, and doctrines of the church of Christ, proceeded to ordain him according to the forms of the church. Elder George Witherell preached the sermon, Elder Packer gave the charge, and Elder Purrington the right hand of fellowship. They then adjourned, under an agreement to meet at Levi Shumway's on the 18th, at nine o'clock, A. M., and march to the meeting-house in procession, to hold religious services during the day. They accordingly met as per agreement, and marched to the church, where refreshing and impressive religious services were held through the day, conducted by Elders Witherell, Purrington, Packer, and Spaulding; attentively listened to, and highly appreciated, by a very large congregation of people.

March 10, 1810, the record shows a vote of the church to be as follows: "Voted that if Elder Spaulding will stay they would contribute to his support so that he could lay up property as fast as the brethren." But upon consultation with the Elder, he concluded not to stay unless they would fix a stipulated sum for his support. They agreed with him, however, to continue his labors with them another year, or

until they could procure another preacher.

April 5, 1811, the church voted, "that the expenses of the church for the past year, be averaged as near what each brother is worth, as they think proper." So it seems they made the principle of equality, even in their contributions for religious worship, one of the cardinal maxims of their action. But even half a century so changes the customs and habits of the people in their manner of doing public business for the support of religious worship, as well as in other things, they scarcely seem like the same race of people. These primitive pioneers in the church were of necessity obliged to resort to the strictest economy, in their expenditures in church ordinances, as well as in other acts, for the progress of human society. When we reflect upon the situation and circumstances under which they acted, and the privations and hardships that surrounded them, the wonder is, how it was possible for them to make such progress, in all that pertains to a Christian civilization, and the moral and physical developments of the people in this comparatively new township, as their record shows.

For the next four or five years, this church had no settled minister in this town, but was supplied with preaching most of the time, by different ministers from Coleraine, Heath, Wilmington, and Halifax. In 1816, Rev. Linus Austin, came here and commenced preaching to the church, and people, and at a church meeting on the 12th day of December of that year, it was decided to give him a call to settle here, and he became pastor of the church. When they had received information that he would accept their call, they concluded to call a council to meet at the school-house, near Deacon Nathan Brown's, on the 8th day of January next, "to set apart Brother Austin, to the ministry by ordination." And also that Nathan Brown, be ordained Deacon of the church at the same time if thought proper.

The church and council met according to appointment, January 8th, 1817, at 12 o'clock A. M. and chose Amos Brown, Moderator, and Josiah Brown, to answer any questions for the church, the council might propose. The council after a due examination of Elder Austin, as to his Christian experi-

ence, his knowledge of the Scriptures, and the doctrine of the church, decided to set him apart for the ministry, and he was ordained according to their forms of faith. Elders Hines, Witherell, Wilson, and Brooks, being present, took part in the exercises. Rev. Paul Hines, being assigned to preach the sermon, Witherell and Wilson to laying on of hands, Witherell gave the charge, and Hines the right hand of fellowship. And Nathan Brown was ordained Deacon of the church according to the forms of the Baptist faith. The records do not show the number of members of the church at this time, but was about fifty.

At a church meeting January 23d, 1819, a unanimous vote of satisfaction with the labors of Elder Austin was passed, and the same meeting voted to pay him one hundred dollars yearly, for his labors. The church continued to gain in numbers, and their efforts in the cause of Christianity, by the untiring labors of their pastor, and the more active members of his charge. Amongst whom, we might name Deacons Jonas and Nathan Brown, David and Walter Eames, James Warren, Ambrose Stone, and others, whose life and Christian character would stand as shining lights for the guidance of the present generation. Nor was the salutary influence of the sisters in the church at that time, any less conspicuous or worthy of note. Such members as Betsy Brown, Lucy Winn, Esther and Olive Eames, Dorcas Sabin, Molly Tainter; true in all the Christian virtues, reflecting a living light in the pathway of human existence. And Aunt Grace Davis, who lived to the age of 102, though a member of the Baptist Church in Halifax, lived in this town, and by her pathetic exhortations, and unwearied efforts in the cause of the Christian religion, exerted a powerful influence wherever she moved. In those days church ordinances were matters of conscientious duty, rather than for popular favor.

In 1824, the church contained 61 members, 28 Brothers and 33 Sisters. At a meeting October 7th, 1824, the records show a withdrawal of fellowship with Samuel Tyler, and during the previous year three were dismissed from the church, two died, and two were added, leaving the whole number at that date, 60. The next annual report shows one dismissed, leaving 59.

In January 1826, Elder Paul Hines, and his wife Sally Hines, were taken into the church by letter from the Chesterfield Church, and in March following, he was employed to preach three fourths of the Sabbaths, Rev. Linus Austin having resigned his pastorate. And at a meeting on the 31st of March, 1826, the church voted to give him a dismissal, and letters of recommendation as a preacher of the Gospel to any church of that faith and order; and also to his wife, Temperance Austin, as a faithful member of the church. At the same meeting the church withdrew fellowship with Caleb Blanchard. Rev. Paul Hines continued his labors as Minister during that year, and some additions were made to the church by Baptism. The annual meeting October 10th, 1826, showed a membership of 63.

On the 4th day of December 1827, Rev. Amherst Lamb, and his wife, Fanny Lamb, were received by letter from the church of Guilford. He was soon after accepted and installed as Pastor of the Baptist Church in Whitingham, where he remained a long time, and performed the greatest part of his clerical labors. During the first year of his ministration large gains were made to the church, and a general revival of religious feeling was springing up through the whole town. The annual meeting of October 15th, 1828, shows by the record, a gain of 16 by baptism, two by letter, two restored, and one died; leaving the whole number of members 83. The next year, the records show one added by baptism, three dismissed, two died, and two excluded, leaving 76. The annual meeting of October 10th, 1830, shows four dismissed, one died, leaving 71. On the 13th of November, 1830, the church withdrew fellowship with brother Amos Brown.

In 1831, there were quite extensive religious revivals, both amongst the Baptists and Methodists, and considerable additions made to both. Revs. Amherst Lamb, and Ebenezer Davis, both resident citizens of Whitingham, then in the prime of life, exerted an influence that stirred the people of that age as no other ministers ever had. Both active and devoted Christian ministers; honest, conscientious, and faithful workers for the general good of the people. The annual meeting of the Baptist church, Oct. 7, 1831, showed

a gain by baptism of 21, excluded 2, and 2 died, leaving 88 members. These were the most prosperous days of the church, as well as of the town; the whole people were bound together in one common fraternity, and took an interest in each other's welfare and the common good. More than twice as many people would assemble at the old church on the hill, each succeeding Sabbath, as now attend all the churches in town. People at that time considered it a duty as well as a privilege to go to church regularly, and seldom a Sabbath passed, in the pleasant season of the year, but that from three to five hundred devout worshipers would attend meeting at the old church, then the common centre of attraction for the whole town. The record of the annual meeting in 1832 shows 7 added by baptism, 1 by letter, and 2 excluded, leaving 92.

In 1833, the Baptist meeting-house in the centre village on the hill was built, with but little funds from outside the church. Dea. Nathan Brown had the contract for building it, and it was built and finished in the course of the summer and fall, and the pews were sold to individuals and the avails appropriated to pay the expense of building. The church was then in a prosperous condition, and continued so for several years thereafter. We find no record of the time it was dedicated, but it was in the fall, or early winter of that year.

October 6, 1833, the church voted to give Russell Brown, and William G. Brown, then students in Williams College, both natives of Whitingham and members of the Baptist church, license to preach. They were both very promising young men, industrious and persevering students, designing to fit themselves for the ministry. They were sound original thinkers, superior scholars, and aimed to reach the highest rank in the clerical profession. They preached occasionally for a year or two, with very promising success; and more especially the former, who seemed every way fitted by nature for that chosen profession; endowed with a strong clear voice, a ready talker and a first-class linguist. But he died suddenly and unexpectedly in college, May 7, 1835, at the age of twenty-three. By the death of this young man

the Baptist church, of which he had been a member about three years, lost one of its most promising and devoted members, and the town one of its best young men. He had determined to devote his life to missionary work, and make himself equal, and if possible superior, to Rev. Nathan Brown, the eminent philologist and missionary of the Baptist church, to India, China, and Japan.

The sudden death of this class-mate, and room-mate of William G. Brown, so deeply affected him that his health soon failed, and he was obliged to leave college, and he never graduated. He was an excellent scholar, and noted poet, and has spent most of his life in teaching; but was for a few years engaged in journalism in this State, and Massachusetts, with marked success. The remains of Russell Brown were brought to Whitingham for burial; and the Rev. Amherst Lamb preached an impressive discourse at his funeral, which was held at his father's house, from these words, "What I do, thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."—John, 13 : 7.

There were no material changes in the church during 1834, and 1835, either in numbers or outward demonstrations of religious interest, but no lack of enterprise in its leading members, to keep church ordinances up to a high standard, was apparent. The annual report of Oct. 9, 1835, shows 7 dismissed, 2 added, and 2 excluded, leaving the number 75. It was during this year the church "withdrew fellowship with Reuben Winn, for playing cards, and other sinful games."

On the 27th day of February, 1836, Dea. Jonas Brown was taken to his rest, from the cares of this world, after more than a quarter of a century of earnest and prayerful work, as a leader of the church. Having been its senior Deacon, and one of its most beloved, active and exemplary members, from the time of its organization. This loss was more sensibly felt by the church, than that of any other member since its formation. Always one of the guiding lights, quiet and unassuming, faithful and true to his trusts, his examples more than equal to his precepts, was known but to be respected.

At a church meeting April 19, 1836, Edmund Bemis and Aldis Brown were chosen to officiate as Deacons of the church; and on the 24th day of the same month, Rev. Amherst Lamb closed his labors as Pastor of the church, and they gave him a dismissal and letters of recommendation as a Minister of the Gospel of Christ, to the Baptist church in Charlemont, Mass., and letters of recommendation to his wife, Fanny Lamb, to any church of their faith and order. The annual report of 1836, shows 9 dismissed, 3 added by letter, and two died, leaving 67 members.

April 26, 1837, the church voted to give Aldin B. Eggleston a call to come here and take pastoral charge of the church. He accepted the call, and brought letters of recommendation as a minister of the Gospel for himself, and for his wife as member, from his former church; and commenced his labors here as minister the second Sabbath in May, 1837. The annual report of 1837, shows two dismissed, one added by baptism, two by letter, one died, and three excluded, leaving 64.

On the 10th day of October, 1837, a protracted meeting commenced, which lasted ten days, and the records show it to be "well attended, and many became anxious about the spiritual welfare of their souls." Oct. 24, 1837, the church voted "to withdraw the hand of fellowship with sisters Elizabeth and Lucy Winn, on account of their neglecting to walk with the church. The annual report of 1838, shows five added by baptism, two dismissed, three died, and two excluded, leaving 62.

In November, 1838, the record shows, "that Deacon Edmund Bemis preferred charges against Elder Eggleston for his holding to doctrines contrary to the belief of the Baptists; in holding to the doctrines of falling from grace, and for holding to open communion, and for saying the mode of Baptism is immaterial." Mr. Eggleston being present, said these charges were correct, and that he was fully established in them. Whereupon the church voted to "admonish brother Eggleston to return to his duty and take his place in the church." And the church clerk admonished him according to the vote of the church.

November 19, 1838, the church voted to give him a letter to the effect that his doctrines, above described, were not in accordance with those of the church. Closing the same by withdrawing church fellowship with him; but not intending to reproach his moral character at all, as his standing is good as a Christian minister.

June 1, 1839, Foster Hartwell and his wife, Augusta M. Hartwell, joined this church by letter from the Baptist church in Conway, Mass., and he was accepted as Pastor. He then commenced his labors with the church, and they were fully satisfied with his ministrations. On the 9th day of June, 4 were baptized and joined the church. The annual report of 1839 shows 7 added by baptism, 5 by letter, 3 were dismissed, and one died, whole number 75. No essential changes in the church in 1840 and 1841 are shown by the records.

On the 5th day of January, 1842, Elder Eggleston and wife were restored to full fellowship with the church, and a letter of dismissal and recommendation to any other church of the same faith and order, was given. The annual report of 1842 shows the members to be 67. July 2, 1843, seven were baptized by Elder Hartwell, and united with the church. And during that year the records show that 19 were added by baptism, two by letter, one dismissed, three died, and three were dropped, leaving the number of members 81.

May 11, 1845, Rev. Amherst Lamb came back from Charlemont, and again labored with the church. For the next ten years there were no very notable changes in the condition and progress of this church; it still continued to be the leading church in town, and its interest in the cause of the Christian religion was in no wise abated. Its leading members, such men as Rufus Brown, Dea. L. A. Warren, R. C. Streeter, H. C. Coats, Deliverance Wheeler, and others of less influence, were not of the class to relax their efforts in any cause where they believed the good of humanity was at stake. The annual reports of these years show slight gains in members from 77 in 1846 to 81 in 1860.

In October, 1857, Rev. Erastus A. Briggs came to Whit-

ingham from Hinsdale, N. H., preached to the church till January, 1858, when he was ordained, and became pastor of the church, with which he faithfully labored till death called him to his reward, June 4, 1861. He was a sincere, prayerful, and much beloved pastor, though not a man of great physical or oratorical power. He earnestly devoted his whole time and talent to the good of the church and the people, and by his unwearied and earnest efforts, the church prospered and made considerable gains during his brief pastorate. Sixteen were added to the church by baptism, and the church universally commended his labors.

Rev. Thomas Wrinkle came to this church in pursuance of a call by the brethren Sept. 9, 1861, from the Baptist church in Colebrook, Conn., and was received by letter of recommendation as a minister of the Gospel of Christ. And was thereupon installed as pastor of this church; and his wife and daughter received as members. He officiated as pastor of the church till he was mustered into the army, Jan. 5, 1864. He served in the army about a year and a half, when he got a discharge, and came home. And on the 31st of March, 1865, letters of dismissal were granted by the church to him and his family, and a letter of recommendation as minister of the Gospel was given to him to the Baptist church in Bernardston, or any other church of the same faith and order. And in June of the same year, letters of dismissal were given to James Warren, and Linus A. Warren, and and their wives Philena and Sophrona Warren, and letters of recommendation to the Baptist church at Shelburne Falls, Mass. Henry Dodds and family also had letters of dismissall and recommendation given at the same time.

At a meeting held April 3, 1866, Rev. P. T. Briggs, who had been preachingt ot he church and people here, concluded to continue his labors a while longer, on condition that he could have the privilege of working as missionary in other towns on week days.

At a meeting of the church, March 3, 1867, the records show that "a letter from Aldis Brown was read, asking forgiveness of the church for the wrongs he had done, in using harsh and censorious language against members of the

church, thereby bringing reproach upon the cause of Christ." And April 6, 1867, the church voted "To forgive brother Aldis Brown, according to his request."

At a communion service, Jan. 5, 1878, the church extended the hand of full fellowship to Dea. Aldis Brown, from whom such fellowship had been withheld for some time, for the cause indicated in the above paragraph.

In Sept. 1868, Rev. Mr. Butterfield preached about three weeks as a supply for brother Briggs. And in November of that year Rev. S. Lathan came to this town and preached to this church and people almost every evening for three weeks. Rev. ~~P. T.~~ Briggs had resigned his pastoral charge of the church in April before, and the church had no settled minister till June 1, 1870, when Rev. S. P. Bennett was ordained by council, having preached here some time before that. He and Rev. E. D. Wilcox supplied the church with preaching till June, 1872, when Rev. W. D. Hall from Springfield, Vt., commenced his labors with the church as pastor. He was ordained June 12, 1873, and continued to preach till Oct. 25, 1874, at which time he closed his labors with the church. The church next employed the Rev. Mr. Wooster as a supply, and he occupied the desk from Feb. 1 till March 7, 1875.

June 20, 1875, Rev. J. G. Bennett was employed, and commenced his labors with the church. At a meeting held Aug. 1, 1875, they decided to give the Rev. Mr. Bennett a call to become their pastor. The church had then got reduced to 49 members. In Oct. 1876, Rev. Mr. Bennett resigned his pastoral charge of the church, which was soon after accepted, and letters of dismissal and a recommendation was given him to any church of the same faith and order. Rev. E. D. Wilcox then came as a temporary supply, and he and Rev. Jacob Davis supplied the church with preaching till the last of March, 1877.

The Rev. L. Tandy was their next minister. He came here in April, 1877, and soon after the church voted to extend to him the hand of fellowship, and an invitation to become their pastor; which was accepted by him, and he commenced his labor as pastor, May 13, 1877. The church

then had but 47 members. Mr. Tandy lived in the village of Sadawga, but held his meetings alternately at that village and at the Methodist church in Jacksonville, till December, 1878.

At a meeting held Dec. 7, 1878, it was voted to hold their meetings at the village of Sadawga every Sabbath after Jan. 1, 1879. They were then contemplating a plan for the purchase of the church called the Methodist church in that village, which they soon after did, and the title passed to the Baptist church in Whitingham. The Rev. Mr. Tandy closed his labors as pastor, May 4, 1879, and the church gave him letters of dismissal and recommendation, according to the usual custom ; and also to Lima V. Truesdale, Aug. 3. 1879. Rev. Origen Smith, of Wilmington, commenced preaching to the church and people, June 1, 1879, and labored with them to the time of his death, Dec. 21, 1884. In the summer of 1881, the Baptist church repaired, painted, and made some alterations inside of their house of worship at Sadawga, at an expense of $111, paid for mainly by the Ladies' aid society.

Since the death of Rev. Origen Smith, the Rev. Mr. Colesworth has been the pastor, and satisfactorily ministered to the church and people.

UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY.

We find no record of any Society, or organization of Universalists in Whitingham till January 1st, 1817 ; although from the earliest settlements in the town, quite a large proportion of the people believed, and advocated that doctrine, and occasionally had preaching of that faith, for several years before any organization was effected. The earliest records we can find, show that, "A number of persons, inhabitants of Whitingham, believing that important advantages may be derived from the institution of a Society of Universalists in this town ; met at the house of Simon Stevens, for the purpose of taking into consideration the expendency of con-

stituting a society for the purpose of promoting the preaching of the Gospel."

And after solemn prayer by Rev. David Ballou, proceeded by making choice of Simon Stevens, Moderator of the meeting, and Ephraim Smith, Clerk. They then resolved to constitute a society for the purpose of promoting the preaching of the Gospel. And finally voted to adopt the following form of agreement under which this society shall be formed, viz; "We the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Whitingham, County of Windham, State of Vermont, do, hereby voluntarily associate and agree, to form a society by the name of *The Society of Universalists in Whitingham*, for the purpose of promoting the preaching of the Gospel, according to the first section of an act entitled an act for the support of the Gospel, passed October 26, 1798."

"In witness whereof we hereunto severally set our hands. Dated at Whitingham this 1st day of January, 1817."

To this organization 23 members then subscribed their names and formed themselves into *Society of Universalists*, for the purpose above named. A committee was then appointed to draft a code of By-Laws, for the government of the society, and report at an adjourned meeting to be held at the same place at two o'clock P. M., on that 15th inst.

The records show that this society met pursuant to adjournment, and Ephraim Smith, chairmen of the committee, reported a code of by-laws and regulations, which was adopted by the society, and the organization of a Universalist Society in Whitingham was completed.

Under this organization the society proceeded to elect the officers for the ensuing year, as provided in the by-laws. Ephraim Smith, Hezekiah Whitney and Rufus Hosley, were chosen Standing Committee; Ephraim Smith, Clerk; James Putnam, Collector. During the adjournment from the 1st to the 15th inst. sixteen others joined the society, making thirty nine members at its first organization.

On the 15th day of March, 1817, a meeting was held to see if they would employ Rev. Hosea Ballou to preach the Gospel, any part of the ensuing year, and to see what compensation they will make him if they do so; and for some

other purpose named in the warrant. At this meeting they "Voted to employ Mr. Ballou to preach as long as it will be convenient for him to tarry in these parts;" and that the matter of compensation be fixed by the Standing Committee. It was also agreed that a sufficient sum for the above purpose be raised by subscription.

On the 28th day of August of the same year, a meeting of this society was called at the meeting-house in the Center of the town, to see if the society wish to make application to the General Convention of Universalists, in the New England States, to be received into fellowship with said convention, and if so, to appoint a proper person to present such application and to represent this society in the convention at their next session. The meeting was then adjourned to September 6, 1817, at which time it was "Voted to request the General Convention to receive this society into the fellowship of said convention, and Messrs. Waste and Whitney be a committee to prepare a request."

No special business was done by the society in 1818, except to choose the officers as provided by the by-laws, and to raise funds by subscription for the support of preaching. At the annual meeting in 1819, after electing the proper officers and committees for the ensuing year, it was voted to "raise forty dollars on the poll and ratable estate to support the preaching of the Gospel the ensuing year on the Grand List of 1818."

The next meeting the records show was holden on the 19th day of March, 1822, at which Hon. John Roberts was Moderator. At this meeting it was "Voted to raise money by subscription to support preaching the ensuing year." And John Roberts and Ephraim Smith were appointed a committee to make arrangements for the use of the meeting-house.

We find no record of any meeting of this society, from the date last mentioned, till July 31, 1830; when by direction of Rufus Carley, one of the Standing Committee, a meeting of the Society of Universalists in Whitingham was called by Ephraim Smith, Clerk, to be holden at the meeting-house on the 14th day of August next, at 5 o'clock P. M, "to elect a

Standing Committee, a Clerk, a Collector and Treasurer, to serve said society till the first Wednesday of January next, and to see if the society will send one of its members as Delegate to the Franklin Association at their next session to be held in Guilford, in the month of August next." And also, "to deliberate upon measures for the general good of the society, the dissemination of truth, and the detection of error."

At a meeting held under the above warrant, Hezekiah Murdock, Hon. John Roberts, and Rufus Carley, were chosen Standing Committee; Wm. Hull, Collector; Levi Sumner, Treasurer; Rufus Chase, Clerk, and Hon. John Roberts, Delegate to the Association to be held at Guilford.

From this time forward, for the next fifteen years, this society kept up its organization; annually electing its proper officers and supported preaching more or less each year. And after Rev. Hosea F. Ballou came to this town in 1833, he was the regular minister of the Universalist denomination while he lived in town. In 1832 and 1833, the Universalists contemplated building a meeting-house at or near the Center of the town, for the benefit of the Universalists in Whitingham, and for a more convenient place for public worship. They held several meetings to consider the matter and deliberate upon the expediency of such a move.

At a meeting of the society holden at the meeting-house on the 28th day of January, 1832. John Roberts, Nathan Green, Jr., and Chester Eddy, were chosen a committee to prepare a subscription paper for building a meeting-house; and the same meeting voted to locate said house south of the old meeting-house, and also voted that the money raised by subscription be expended under the direction of a committee to be hereafter chosen.

On the 6th day of February, 1832, a meeting of the society was held for the purpose of choosing a committee to superintend all subscriptions that are, or shall be obtained for the erection of a meeting-house, with power to act upon all duties in that behalf entrusted to them. Elisha Putnam, Joseph W. Brown and Rufus Chase, were chosen a committee for the purpose above named. It was voted at this

meeting that the Standing Committee, Ledyard Haley, Elisha Putnam and Nathan Green, Jr., should examine and find the best place "on the common, or on land of, or to be obtained of John Andrews, for locating the meeting-house."

April 2, 1832, a meeting was held pursuant to a warrant, "to see if the society will vote to build a meeting-house," and also to see if they "will vote to abolish the constitution and dissolve the society." At this meeting the vote for building a meeting-house stood, as the record shows, twenty-four for building and fourteen against it. And in relation to abolishing the constitution and dissolving the society, they voted to pass over the article. At the same meeting the society voted "that all who have subscribed for building a meeting-house, may have the privilege of withdrawing their subscriptions if they please."

At a meeting held August 11, 1832, Elisha Putnam and Ledyard Haley, were chosen delegates to the Franklin Association of Universalists, to be holden at Brattleboro, August 15th and 16th. The records show no further action in relation to building a meeting-house, till the building of a house in Jacksonville was contemplated. Nothing appears in the records about the building of a church, once known as the "South Church," in connection with the Methodist church or society.

At the next annual meeting, January 2, 1833, a Universalist Society Library was started by subscription, and a committee to superintend the purchase of books, and present at a future meeting such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary. The committee was Elisha Putnam, Ledyard Haley, Joseph W. Brown and Hezekiah Murdock, and Rufus Chase was chosen Librarian. At a subsequent meeting, after the library was fully established, and a goodly number of books had been procured, the society voted to give the four ministers living in town, viz.: Hosea F. Ballou, Amherst Lamb, Ebenezer Davis and Calvin Buckland, the free use of the Universalist library from that date.

From 1834 to 1847, Rev. Hosea F. Ballou was the regular pastor of the Universalists in Whitingham; he preached to them in this town for half the time or more each year.

Nothing of a business character, of any special importance, was done by the society, as such, during that time. It kept its organization up, annually electing its proper officers, and delegates to the Association. In 1837, Leonard Brown was chosen Clerk and Librarian, and held that position till he moved to Jacksonville in 1845. The record shows no further proceeding of this society till the Universalist society in Jacksonville was established. Up to that time the record shows that 117 members had subscribed to the constitution and by-laws, and become members of the society known as "*The Society of Universalists in Whitingham.*"

On the 31st day of December, 1849, a society was organized in the village of Jacksonville, known as the *Jacksonville Universalist Society.*" And a constitution and by-laws were drawn up and adopted, in compliance with the Statutes of the State, as contained in Chapter 81, of the Revised Statutes. "For the support of the Gospel and the maintainance of public worship, to procure, hold, and keep in repair a house for the convenient meeting of the people for public worship." The record shows that fifty of the citizens of Jacksonville and vicinity, subscribed to the constitution, and became members of this society. And they adopted "a profession of belief," as reported by a committee of the general convention of Universalists holden at Winchester, N. H., in 1803. That committee consisted of the venerable Zebulon Streeter, Rev. George Richards, Hosea Ballou, Walter Ferris and Zephaniah Lathe. The form of the profession of belief is substantially as follows:

First. "We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain a revelation of the character of God, and of the duty, interest, and final destination of mankind."

Second. "We believe that there is one God, whose nature is love, revealed in one Lord Jesus Christ, by one Holy Spirit of Grace, who will finally restore the whole family of mankind to holiness and happiness."

Third. "We believe that holiness and happiness are inseparably connected, and that holiness ought to be careful to maintain order, and practise good works, for these things

are good and profitable unto men."

At this meeting, December 31st, 1849, Leonard Brown was chosen Chairman, and Cyrus W. Carley, Clerk ; Parley Starr, Jr., David Jillson, Jr., and Obed Foster, were chosen to serve as Directors the ensuing year. John R. Stacey was chosen Collector, and a vote was passed to empower the Directors to appoint a substitute if Mr. Stacey declines to serve as Collector. Leonard Brown, and C. W. Carley were chosen Delegates to the Windham and Bennington County Association. Also voted that a Committee of seven be chosen to locate, and to draw a plan for a meeting-house, and see how much can be raised by subscription to build in accordance with said location and plan ; and report at an adjourned meeting, three weeks from this time. A committee of seven was then chosen for the purpose above named, as follows : Leonard Brown, Parley Starr, Jr., John Brigham, David Jillson, P. H. Sumner, James Roberts, and Samuel Murdock.

At the adjourned meeting January 21, 1850, nothing was done, for the reason that the committee wanted more time to complete their plan after getting all the funds they could by subscription for building.

At an adjourned meeting holden January 28, 1850, it was voted to build a meeting-house in accordance with the plan and location as reported by the committee. Accordingly they chose a building committee of three, to contract for, and superintend the building of said house. James Roberts, David Jillson, and Leonard Brown were chosen for said committee. The meeting was then adjourned till the next Saturday, at 1 o'clock P. M., to give the committee an opportunity of procuring subscriptions, and making the amount a basis for the plan of the house, and to receive bids for building the same, or otherwise make such contract for building as they may deem expedient.

On the 2nd day of February, 1850, this committee made a contract with George Porter, to build the meeting-house in accordance with the plan and specifications adopted, to be built the next summer. The house was built accordingly in the summer of 1850, and on its completion and ac-

ceptance by said committee, the pews, or slips, were mostly sold to individuals, and the avails applied to cancel the obligations for building. It was dedicated in the early part of the winter of 1850 and '51, and Rev. Hosea F. Ballou was employed to preach one-half the time for the next four or five years.

On the 13th day of May, 1851, at a special meeting of the society, an arrangement was made with Parley Starr, David Jillson, and Martin Brown, to take the unsold slips, or pews, and for that consideration to discharge all indebtedness of the society for building the meeting-house. On the 28th of December, 1856, Rev. H. F. Ballou tendered his resignation as pastor of the Jacksonville Universalist society, to take effect the first day of April next. His resignation was accepted, and he soon after removed to Wilmington, where he spent the rest of his life.

Rev. Jeremiah Gifford was then employed to preach one-half the time after April 1st, 1857. He continued his labors with the society till March, 1862. In 1859, the society repaired, and made alterations inside their church, incurring quite a large bill of expense. The records show, that at the annual meeting of that year, there was still a balance due for repairs, of something over eighty dollars.

Rev. M. B. Bishop preached to the society a few Sabbaths in the spring of 1862, till N. C. Hodgden came to this village, and commenced his labors as pastor, the third Sabbath in June, 1862. He continued his labors here for three years; since that time there has been no settled minister living in Jacksonville, but Rev. Jeremiah Gifford has preached to the society most of the time, although his residence has been in Halifax and Wilmington. The Universalist society has been the leading religious organization in the village of Jacksonville, ever since its formation in 1849. It is now in a prosperous and flourishing condition under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Gifford; with a fine Sunday-school, that is having a salutary influence in training the children and youth in the principles of truth and righteousness.

FREE-WILL BAPTISTS.

In 1830, a meeting of a number of the inhabitants of the northeast part of the town was held, and the following named persons, viz : Caleb Corkins, Josiah Blanchard, Aaron Chase, Sumner Bigelow, Viets Griffin, Lewis Fuller, Origen Ball, Mary Ball, Julia Griffin, Polly Corkins, Nancy M. Burnham, Clarissa Bigelow, Lucy Chase, and Elizabeth Griffin, formed themselves into a Church, by the name of the "Free Will Baptists Church," thereby agreeing to walk together in love, and to take the Scriptures for their guide and for their rule of practice. They were organized into a Church with full power to act as other churches of Christ of the same denomination, and were given the right hand of fellowship by the Rev. Daniel Leonard, of Dover. And on the 30th day of August, 1830, the church voted to " send Josiah Blanchard, Lewis Fuller, and Aaron Chase, delegates to the Dover Quarterly meeting, next to be holden at Guilford, on the fourth and fifth days of September."

On the 14th day of November, 1830, the church voted that "Jasper Hunt, Lewis Fuller, and Josiah Blanchard, be a committee to make inquiry of the church and society, as to the expediency of building a Meeting house." This committee, after due consultation with the church and society, and other friends of religious worship in that vicinity, reported favorably for such an enterprise. And after several meetings in different places, to consider the best location for a house of public worship, and the convenience of the church, finally decided to build a Meeting-house, on land of James Roberts, north of the road running east from Josiah Blanchards. And Josiah Blanchard, Jasper Hunt, and Lewis Fuller, were chosen a committee to draft a plan, and make contract for the building of the house.

In the summer of 1831, a Meeting-house was built, and public worship was held therein for the next eight or ten years. The ministers that preached in that church during

that time, were Rev. Daniel Leonard, Calvin Buckland, Jacob Couliard, Russell Barrett, and Peter S. Gates. Calvin Buckland, and Peter S. Gates were, for a long time, residents of Whitingham, but they afterward both removed to Halifax, where they died.

This church and society made a very commendable record of progress for the first few years ; quite a revival of religious interest sprang up in that quarter of the town, and it bid fair to be an equal with any other religious organization then in town. But for lack of enterprise in the support of religious worship, and want of funds to support regular preaching, and keep the house of worship in repair ; together with the death, and removal of some of the principal members, they failed to excite sufficient interest in the people of that vicinity to support regular preaching. And after a hard struggle for a few years to prolong existence, the church finally became extinct as an organization ; the Meeting-house was abandoned and became dilapidated, and was taken down, and the land reverted back to the grantor, according to the conditions of the deed. Thus we find that in less than thirty years from the time this church was formed, and the people in that quarter felt a deep interest in building up and supporting church ordinances, as a permanent basis of moral and religious culture, both the church and society have been annihilated, their house of worship demolished, and not a vestige is left to mark the place where it stood.

JACKSONVILLE.

THIS village, now the most important business centre in the town of Whitingham, is situated in the northeastern part of the town, on the banks of North River. It is a narrow gorge between the abruptly rising hills on the east, and the more gradual slopes from the centre ridge on the west. The fall of the river is rapid in this locality, and affords many good sights for water power mills, and manufacturing establishments. It is a thriving village of about 760 inhabitants. Contains two churches, an excellent school-house, with two school-rooms, and a large village hall for public purposes, lectures, concerts, exhibitions at agricultural fairs, town meetings, etc., etc. There are two stores, one hotel, two saw-mills, one grist-mill, sash and door shop, carriage shop, two blacksmith shops, an establishment for manufacturing apple jelly, three shops for manufacturing butter boxes and tubs, besides a tin shop, and several other industries in the line of manufacturing different kinds of goods.

FIRST SETTLEMENTS.

The earliest trace we can get of any settlement in this place, was about 1808. There were then three families living in this vicinity ; a Mr. Patrick Peebles, living on, or near the place where Josiah French now lives, run a grist-mill then owned by Col. Isaac Martin. Obed Foster lived on a place later known as the " Burns' place," the house standing a little back from Dea. L. A. Warren's barn. And a man by the name of Brown, lived near where Albert C. Stetson's house

now stands; but what his occupation was, or what became of him, we have been unable to learn. Obed Foster soon after changed his residence to the place where Horace W. Lynde now lives; and William Burns came to the place he left, and started a little distillery, for making essences, and sometimes cider brandy. He cultivated a large garden, around and back of where Mrs. Kingsley and Dea. Warren's houses now stand, for growing wormwood, peppermint, and other herbs for distilling into essences. He was so industrious and persevering in his business, he gained the appellation of "Wormwood Burns," by which title he was known for several years.

Patrick Peebles left his residence by the mill after three or four years, and went up on to a farm situated between the Foster G. Crown place, and the Frank Putnam place; at that time an important and much traveled road run across there. Mr. Peebles finally left his farm, and went to Chicopee, Mass., and never returned. The buildings where he lived have long since been entirely demolished, and the farm divided up and sold to different parties. Samuel Martin bought the Grist-mill when Peebles left there, run that, and soon built a saw-mill, owned and run them till the time of his death, Oct. 3, 1829. And for a long time previous to that date, this place was known by the name of "Martin's Mills."

Squire Bliss and brother built a cloth-dressing mill on, or near, the site of Stetson Brothers' saw-mill, about 1820, which they run in connection with a carding machine three or four years, when they sold out to Ozias S. Plumb, and he run the business a short time, and sold it to his brother, Saxton Plumb. This business was carried on respectively by Saxton Plumb, Willard Foster, and Foster & Gates, till about 1835, when Gates sold his interest to Merrick Chase, and the firm changed to Foster & Chase till 1837, when Foster bought the interest of Chase.

In 1826, Isaac Burnham, Jr. started a blacksmith's shop, on the site of Starr's tannery, and undertook the business of making axes, and other edged tools. He also built a small house on the site of Parley Starr's dwelling house, in this

village. He was an ingenious mechanic, and made the best of work, but for some cause he did not succeed in business. Simeon Morse also went into the scythe making business in the same shop, for a short time. But for want of capital, or lack of business enterprise, they both soon petered out and quit their business. Their shop was moved off, or converted into a tannery building, by Freeman Brigham, and Daniel Dean, who first started the business of tanning and currying in this village. They carried on the business on a small scale, under the firm name of Brigham & Dean, till Parley Starr came here and bought them out in November, 1837. Before that time, Saxton Plumb had started a store in the upper part of the village, and had got the post office removed from a place called "Point Pleasant," near the place where Judge John Roberts lived, and where Plumb kept a little store for a few years. The keen foresight of Plumb, and John and James Roberts, was sufficient to know that that place could never be made a business centre of any importance; and hence they got the post office removed, the name changed to Jacksonville, by which name the village has since been known. When Mr. Plumb had removed his store from Point Pleasant, and the post office had become established here, and Parley Starr had started the tanning and currying business on a more extensive scale, the village soon began to gain rapidly, both in permanent settlements and business enterprise. A small hotel had been built by Willard Foster, on the site of part of the present hotel kept by R. Q. Wilcox. At the time Parley Starr came here and started his business, in the fall of 1837, there were but seven dwelling houses, including the hotel, in the entire village. But very soon after that, the village began to increase in population and business interests at an unexpected rate. Starr's tannery having been established on a more extensive scale, furnished employment for several hands, besides furnishing a ready market for all the wood and bark the surrounding farmers had to spare.

People settled in here for a permanent residence, as fast as houses could be built or tenements procured. It gained so rapidly for two or three years, that some wag in the centre village of the town gave it the name of "New Boston."

Laban J. Childs from Wilmington, came here about 1838 or 1839, and kept a grocery store in connection with Charles Foster, near the site of the drug store. Mr. Childs soon built a new store and dwelling house, the one that N. L. Stetson now lives in ; Charles Foster & Co. was running a four-horse team for freighting, between here and Boston, Mass. and Troy, N. Y. Horses in those days were used as a motive power, for freight and travel, between here and the city markets. When Mr. Childs got his new store completed, he and his brother Adin T. Childs, went into trade there on an extensive scale ; and the gain of this village in business importance, was strongly attracting the attention of the whole town. Such enterprising young men, as Martin Brown, Parley Starr, Willard Foster, L. J. and A. T. Childs, and many others of less business facilities, were competitors of the centre village of the town, of no insignificant importance.

Timothy Wilcox, an industrious, and enterprising wood-working mechanic, had cleared a spot and built a small house on what is now called "River Street," the first ever built in that locality, near where Jacob C. Chase now lives. He manufactured sleighs, cabinet work, old-fashioned clock-cases, and other kinds of wood-work used by the people of that age. There were no large manufacturing establishments at that time, and the people patronized their home mechanics, for the necessary articles of every day use. The business enterprise and mechanical ingenuity of Mr. Wilcox, was of no small importance in attracting the attention of the people of the town to this locality, and building up and establishing the business interests here, upon a permanent basis, in the early stages of the village of Jacksonville.

The growing importance of this village, and the effort of its leading citizens to make it a central business point, very naturally created a feeling of jealousy in the merchants and business men at the centre of the town ; who had heretofore controlled the entire business interests of this, and a large share of the adjoining towns. And the rival competition that sprang up between the centre village and Jacksonville, engendered feelings not the best calculated to harmo-

nize social feelings of good will, or promote the material progress of the two sections. Reuben Winn and Henry Goodnow, merchants at the centre village, who for a long time had been the central figures in the business interests of the town of Whitingham, watched the progress and the growing importance of the village of Jacksonville, with scrupulous anxiety for their own future interests. They clearly foresaw that the industry, persevering energy and ambition of the leading men in that village, together with the advantages of locality, were sure to draw the attention of a large share of the people of Whitingham from their long cherished business centre.

About 1838, Capt. Elias Stone, a man of much business enterprise, and of genial, social feeling—kind, open-hearted and generous, came to this village, and went into company with Willard Foster, in the lumber and turning business. They did a large business in that line for several years, that added materially to the growing importance of the place, besides furnishing steady employment for quite a number of hands besides themselves, in the manufacture of hoe, fork and broom handles. They also run a saw-mill, getting out large quantities of spruce and hemlock lumber, which at that time was extensively used for building purposes, both in this and other localities. But Parley Starr and Martin Brown, were at that time the two central figures in business matters, and did most to build up and establish in this village, a centre of attraction, for the eastern section of the town. Starr's tannery and hired help furnished a ready cash market for a large share of the surplus produce of the neighboring farmers, besides all the wood and bark they could furnish. while Martin Brown, who in those days was in no way behind in business enterprise, was getting out lumber, building houses, making potash, or anything to furnish employment for all that wanted to work.

When the Messrs. Childs had got their new store fairly started, it drew from the centre of the town a large share of the best trade, and the worst fears of the merchants of that place were fully realized. Jacksonville and the Farmer's Interest Company (of which an account is given in another

place), drew almost the entire business of trade from the centre village, and much the best part was done at Jacksonville. Meanwhile Parley Starr was expanding his business in the tannery, having got well started for extensive operations. All other kinds of business were in a thriving condition ; the first class of people were coming here for a permanent residence, and no lack of employment at any kind of business existed. None had any excuse for being idle ; industry was the rule, idleness the exception. And besides this, there was apparently a much greater effort for intellectual improvement, than appears at the present time. The people were conscious that intelligence was an essential element in the formation of a hopeful and progressive community. They felt it a duty as well as a privilege, to store the mind with a knowledge of current events, that they could more clearly determine the course best calculated to elevate their social condition. The leading minds of that day, were strongly impressed with the idea of using all available means of elevating the lower classes of intellect, to a higher plane of social and moral culture. They believed this to be an object worthy the attention of the truly benevolent mind. The oldest inhabitants and longest residents of this village were by no means unmindful of this, and made that an essential part of their duty, in the early part of its history. This village had become of acknowledged importance as a business centre in the town of Whitingham, as early as 1841 or 1842 ; and gained very rapidly for the next decade. But the winter of 1844–5, was one of

THE DEEPEST AFFLICTION.

In the month of December, Martin Brown's dwelling house, then the best there was in the village, was burned, with nearly all its contents. And in the same month, a case of small pox occurred in the most populous part of the village. Elliot F. Chase, then a merchant here, had been to New York, and without knowledge, or even a suspicion that he had in any way been exposed to that disease, in some way had taken it. He came home and soon after was taken sick ; not knowing or mistrusting, he had the small pox, till

he had given it to his family, and to Dr. David D. Wilcox, his attending physician.

When it became known that he had the small pox, the wildest panic and consternation spread through the village and town ; and to some extent in adjoining towns. But fortunately by prompt action, and every possible precaution, it was kept confined to a single house. Mr. Joseph Farnum, of this place. Capt. Robert Collins and Elisha Hagar, Esq., of Halifax, who had previously had that disease, were at once employed to take charge of the infected house, and the patients therein confined.

That was a time of trial—one of the most fearful peril to the whole community. An unprecedented excitement pervaded in every part of the village, and through the entire town. The sudden and unexpected news of such a dreaded and contagious disease, created a feeling amongst the people that can better be imagined than described. Of the six cases of the disease, four proved fatal. Mrs. Chase and her child, Miss Warren, a hired girl in Mr. Chase's family, and Dr. Wilcox, died of the disease. Every kind of business was almost entirely suspended during this trying ordeal. But the loss of Dr. Wilcox was most keenly felt by the people of this village and the whole town. He was a young and enterprising man, a skillful practitioner, ambitious to attain the highest rank in his chosen profession. He had settled here in this village to grow up with its growth, and by close study and careful attention to the business of his profession was determined to reach the goal of his ambition. He had already endeared himself to a large circle of friends in this and the adjoining towns.

The excitement over this contagious malady, and the death of Dr. Wilcox, then one of the most conspicuous and enterprising men in this section, was a shock that paralyzed the entire business interests of this place. During the whole of that winter the greatest anxiety was felt, and every precaution possible was used to prevent the spread of the contagion beyond the infected house. And people from outside the village used all possible caution to keep away from here as much as possible.

In the summer of 1845, when the people become satisfied that the danger from the small pox was past, the usual activity in the various kinds of business was resumed with renewed energy; and all branches of mechanical and other industries revived with more than ordinary ambition. Mechanics and laborers had no excuse for being idle, and the tide of progress was again in full flow. Martin Brown, then in the prime of a vigorous life, built a new house on the site of the one burned, in the early part of the summer, and two or three other houses in that part of the village were built that season. And Jacksonville was never more prosperous in all that pertains to the substantial good of the community, and the material and social progress of the people, than in the next ten years following that memorable winter. Many prominent citizens from other parts of the town came here for a permanent residence; the Universalist church and a new school-house was built; another store established in the lower part of the village; and every kind of business enterprise, as well as literary, moral and social progress, was during that time in the most flourishing condition.

In the summer of 1845, Leonard Brown, an industrious wood-working mechanic, moved from the centre village on the hill down here for a permanent residence, and has since been one of the prominent citizens of the village. Although not possessed of the means of rendering pecuniary aid in public enterprises to any great extent, he did his full share to establish and maintain the social, moral, and literary progress of the village, and fix the local institutions for improvement of the people upon a substantial basis. And he was especially active in training the minds of young men in the principles that pertain to self-government, self-culture, and self-reliance. To him the accumulation of dollars and cents was by no means the exclusive object of life. He always took a deep interest in the welfare of those around him as well as his own; was a leading spirit in social and literary advancement; and for a quarter of a century his counsel in all matters of public interest and improvement was as readily sought as any in this section of the town. He devoted the best energies of his mind to the welfare of the people, and

assiduously labored for the public good. He first built the house lately owned and occupied by Henry N. Lanphear; and in 1846 built the shop he now occupies, and has constantly run it ever since. He has lived in several different localities in the village, but has always been a carpenter and wood-working mechanic, and a prominent member of society. Is a native born citizen of Whitingham, and now one of the oldest inhabitants of the village of Jacksonville.

David Jillson, Jr., long a noted citizen of Whitingham, left his old farm on the "Streeter hill" in the spring of 1846, and came to this village and bought the place that Dr. Wilcox had bought and began to build a house upon the fall before his death. And also bought the place known as the "Stacy lot," together with the blacksmith shop previously occupied by Justin Bartlett; where he carried on the blacksmithing business till he died in 1871. He was an active member of the Universalist society, a prominent and worthy citizen, a man of ample means for any undertaking, a leading citizen in town affairs, frequently elected one of the selectmen and other town offices, and once represented the town in the general assembly.

During the next decade following the memorable winter of 1845, Parley Starr and Martin Brown were the central figures in business matters. No conflicting rivalry ever existed between them; their business being altogether different, no competition could obstruct their effort to promote the general good and extend the business interests of the place. In all contributions for public or charitable enterprises, they considered themselves equals. Both, at that time, possessed ample resources, and were relied upon as leaders in all subscriptions for public purposes. But they were not the only ones to contribute to the progress of this then thriving village, and its institutions; they only did most because their means were greater; many others contributed even more liberally in proportion to their pecuniary means than they. But even at that time a man without money, no matter how generous or enterprising he might be, was compelled to take a subordinate position.

In 1848, Martin Brown built a store in the lower part of

the village on what was called "River street," and did an extensive trade in general merchandise for about two years alone: he then took in Norris L. Stetson, as clerk for a while, and afterwards as partner in the business, and the store was run in the firm name of Brown & Stetson for three or four years. During this time this store was the central attraction for trade and business in this village, and had a more extensive trade than any other store in town. This store was run for about ten years by Martin Brown and Brown & Stetson, and much of that time did the largest business of any one store in Whitingham.

It was during this time that Mr. Brown began to indulge in habits that tended to impair his superior ability as a business man. The natural consequence was a neglect of his business affairs which at that time were so extensive that most diligent and careful attention was required to protect them. His irregular habits of course impaired both his physical and mental capacity, and engendered disease that terminated fatally in the very prime of life. His career in life was an eventful one; he started extensively in business when quite young, and for more than twenty-five years was a sagacious, close calculator, an active, energetic business man, an excellent financier, and accumulated a property that with ordinary care would have made him independent through life; and he undoubtedly did more to start and build up the business interests of Jacksonville than any other one man ever did. The untimely end of his active and useful career is a sad commentary on dissipating and irregular habits in early life, and should serve as a warning to all young men, and teach them a lesson of wisdom, and show them the danger of indulging in habits that tend ultimately to destroy the brightest prospects. We should gladly avoid any allusion to the unfortunate course of one of the most promising young men that ever lived in Jacksonville, were it not absolutely necessary in giving a true history of this village. The prime object of history is to give facts, however unpleasant the task.

In 1850, Amos A. Brown and his father, Amos Brown, left the old farm that the old gentleman had lived on for

nearly half a century, came to this village, built a house, and made this their residence the remainder of their lives. Amos A. was an active business man at that time, possessed of ample means to engage in any kind of business he desired. He was a prominent and influential man in this village, and in the town ; and was for a long time deputy sheriff, the duties of which he performed to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. He was a man of keen sensibilities, quick to resent a wrong or any undue interference with his private rights, or his own legitimate business. Always true to his friends, but unsparing in his opposition to unwarrantable meddling with other people's affairs. He took affectionate care of his father and mother in their old age, careful to provide for all their wants, ready at all times to administer to their comforts, and make their downward pathway as smooth as possible. His health failed when he was in the prime of life ; and he was the victim of a lingering disease, caused by an abcess no the stomach, and died at his home on the 2d day of January, 1869, aged 52. His father and mother both lived to a ripe old age.

Norris L. Stetson, so long known as a merchant in Jacksonville, was a native of Wilmington, came here in 1850, went into the store of Martin Brown, worked as clerk for about two years, then went into partnership with him and they traded under the firm name of Brown & Stetson for three years, when he sold out there and bought the store where he now lives. In 1867, he built the new store that he now occupies. In 1870, Wells P. Jones, a native of Dover, came to this village and went into partnership with Stetson, and the business of that store was carried on under the firm name of "Stetson & Jones" for 13 years. N. L. Stetson has been the leading merchant in Jacksonville ever since he left the store of Brown & Stetson, and a leading and influential man in social and business circles ; not only in this village, but throughout the entire town as well. Has been post master in Jacksonville for 20 years past ; was town treasurer and trustee of the public school fund for many years, and represented the town in the General Assembly in 1867 and 1868.

When Stetson left the store of Martin Brown, E. L. Roberts, a native of Whitingham, went in there as clerk for a few years, when he established a store for himself in the upper part of the village, opposite the store lately occupied by M. W. Stickney, where he carried on the clothing business in connection with his general merchandise, and for a few years did quite an extensive business. He was an active, persevering business man, and after he left the store was deputy sheriff, and one of the selectmen of the town for several years; bought a farm and followed farming two or three years before he left town. His career as a business man is too well known to most of the present generation of the people of Whitingham to need comment. He went from this town to Proctorsville, in the county of Windsor, bought a store and went into trade there a few years, but left there and went to Winchester, N. H., where he now is.

In 1867, Parley Starr built the store where M. W. Stickney lately traded. It was occupied first by S. A. Clark as a boot and shoe store; it was next occupied as a drug and millinery store, in two separate apartments. Afterwards E. C. Starr occupied it for the sale of groceries for a while, then Stickney & Hunt came in there and put in a general assortment of dry goods and groceries, together with drugs and medicines. They traded in company for about two years, when Stickney bought Hunt's interest, and has since traded there alone in all kinds of dry goods, flour, groceries, etc.

The business of E. J. Corkins and the Holbrooks is of no small importance to this place; although they do not live in the immediate village, their business affairs all centre here, and their freighting and trade is all done here. And they are really a part of the inhabitants of Jacksonville.

Parley Starr has done more for this village, by way of donations or voluntary contributions, than any other, and perhaps more than all other men living. When the school-house was built in 1868, he procured a coat of hard-finish to be put on over the plastering in the public hall, at his own expense, and afterwards bought a bell for the use of the school-house at a cost of something over one hundred dollars, both of which he gave to the district. And three years later

he bought the bell on the Universalist church at a cost of about $325, which he gave to the society for their perpetual use. And besides this he made many liberal donations from time to time towards papering, carpeting, and cushioning the seats inside the same church.

At the present time this village is the chief business centre of the town, and unquestionably must remain so. The natural facilities are so much better than at the village of Sadawga, that there is no probability that village can ever equal this, either in commercial, or manufacturing interests. Since E. E. Putnam came here and started the manufacture of boxes, and other wood work, the village has gained rapidly in its manufacturing business, notwithstanding the tannery, that was formerly the centre of business, has been closed for several years. There has been no time in its history when the business prospects were better than at the present time. The prospective development of business enterprise in the villages of Jacksonville and Sadawga present a contrast, decidedly in favor of the former. While this village is constantly gaining in business enterprise of every description, the business interests of Sadawga have been gradually diminishing for the last ten years; and there is at present no well-grounded hope of its immediate future gain. The unfortunate prejudice of the leading men of that village against the village of Jacksonville can only tend to depress the progress of that place, as well as to create an ill feeling amongst the people, of different sections of the town, in all matters of public interest.

The business interests of Jacksonville at the present time consist of three stores, and one hotel; which together with E. E. Putnam's saw-mill and box factory; Porter's grist and saw-mill, in connection with their box business; Stetson Brothers' saw-mill and box shop, together with their cider-mill and apple jelly works; the sash, door, and undertaker's shop of Leonard Brown, now run by D. G. Taylor; to say nothing of the blacksmith, harness, and carriage-makers' shops in the immediate village, or the saw-mill and chair-stock shop of E. J. Corkins a mile below, make Jacksonville one of the most productive villages of its size, in southern

Vermont. All these mills and shops are now running to their full capacity; and each of the three stores are at present doing an extensive business in flour, meal, and general merchandise.

Of the venerable old settlers, that have witnessed the growth of the village almost from its infancy, but few remain. Josiah French and Leonard Brown, both industrious and worthy mechanics, now nearly fourscore years of age, have been here longer than any other two men living of their business capacity.

They have both spent a long and laborious life at their respective trades, besides devoting their best energies to the moral and intellectual culture of the young people with whom they associated. Being men of more than ordinary intelligence, they have done their full share to elevate the social progress of the community, and enlighten and instruct the people to the highest form of civilization. Norris L. Stetson and George Porter come next in the list of the old stand-bys, each having spent about thirty-five years of the last and best part of their lives here; both active and prominent business men in the town as well as this village. Although their general characteristics are very different, they have both been conspicuous leaders in all public matters. There are others that have been here nearly as long, and some possibly longer, but are less noted as public men.

POST OFFICES AND POSTMASTERS.

There was no post office in Whitingham till 1816. Previous to that time, strange as it may now seem, the mail matter for this, and several other towns of nearly the same distance, all came to Brattleboro. The post office there was kept at the old stage house, by Asa Green, Esq., from 1811 to 1841, and was constantly kept open both night and day. And in the former part of Mr. Green's administration, it was the

post office for Guilford, Dummerston, Halifax, Vernon, Whitingham, Newfane, Bernardston, Weybridge, Marlboro, Hinsdale, N. H., Gill and Leyden, Mass., and Chesterfield, N. H.

At the present time it would be thought impossible to live under the privations and inconveniences our progenitors were compelled to bear; yet strange as it now appears, the people, and Whitingham as a town, made quite as rapid progress in social, literary, moral and religious culture, and all that pertains to a high standard of civilization, during the decade next preceding the establishment of the first post office, as in any decade since the town's organization. Increased facilities for improvement are not always a sure test of progress. The greatest achievements are often reached through difficulties and hardships that call the full power of our being into action, mental as well as physical. Self-reliance and energy of purpose are the essential elements of progress, in whatever business we engage.

At that stage of Whitingham's history, no such thing as a daily newspaper had been heard of, and very few of any kind were seen; the reading was confined principally to the standard school books, and a few old theological and historical works that formed the basis of the literature of that age. The people were under the necessity of adapting their course of action to surrounding circumstances; they took less interest in what was being done in the world around them than in their own private affairs. There was more individual and less collective enterprise. The modern mode of concentration in business matters was unknown in this section of the country till many years later. Each worked for himself, and his industry and economy was the measure of his success, and formed his entire capital. The produce of his labor, and of his own farm was his only source of income, and the surplus was carefully saved.

The following is a list of the Post Masters, with the date of their appointment, in each of the Post-Offices in the town of Whitingham:

WHITINGHAM.

NAMES OF P. M.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	NAMES OF P. M.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.
Adin Thayer,	October 26, 1816.	Thomas Wrinkle,	January 7, 1862.
Lenus Austin,	August 31, 1820.	Newell B. Hall,	December 3, 1863.
Royal Houghton,	May 25, 1826.	Nehemiah Sprague,	October 26, 1864.
Elliot Brown,	March 13, 1827.	Joel Wilcox,	March 20, 1867.
Horace Roberts,	August 8, 1829.	Russell A. Stafford,	May 6, 1869.
John E. Butler,	January 3, 1838.	Henry S. Goodnow,	June 7, 1870.
Nathan L. Butler,	February 16, 1843.	Reuben Winn,	June 15, 1874.
Reuben Winn,	May 28, 1850.	Discontinued,	February 20, 1882.
Henry Goodnow.	August 27, 1853.		

POINT PLEASANT.

Saxton Plumb,	April 10, 1826.	James Roberts,	November 19, 1831.
	Changed to	Jacksonville,	November 4, 1834.

JACKSONVILLE.

Saxton Plumb,	November 4, 1834.	George D. Foster,	January 15, 1856.
David D. Wilcox,	March 14, 1839.	Ira Stafford,	August 20, 1856.
Laban J. Childs,	January 24, 1845.	Paul H. Cudworth,	April 15, 1857.
Adin T. Childs,	July 29, 1845.	Edward L. Roberts,	February 23, 1860.
P. H. Sumner,	June 21, 1847.	Norris L. Stetson,	February 20, 1865.
Norris L. Stetson,	October 22, 1851.	Albert C. Stetson,	October 25, 1867.
Martin Brown,	June 27, 1854.	Norris L. Stetson,	March 28, 1870.
		Herbert G. Porter,	Dec. 21, 1885.

SADAWGA.

George W. Chase,	December 31, 1861.	Cyrus Temple,	March 25, 1868.
Eli T. Green,	July 26, 1865.	Hosea W. Brigham,	December 9, 1872.
Chas. T. Murdock,	November 30, 1865.	H. C. Millington,	December 16, 1878.
Samuel B. Pike,	March 26, 1866.	Ch'd to Whitingham,	February 23, 1882.

WHITINGHAM.

*Geo. S. Goodnow,	February 23, 1882.	Horatio N. Hix,	March 31, 1882.

*Was not commissioned.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF IMPORTANT FAMILIES.

GREEN FAMILY.

Nathan and Amos Green were amongst the earliest settlers of the town of Whitingham. Their names appear in the early records, as prominent men in the public affairs of the town. They came from Hampden County, Mass.; their father, Robert Green, settled in that county in 1743. He married Sarah Rogers, Oct. 11th, 1744; purchased a tract of land and established a home in the western part of the town of Wales; and the present line between Wales and Munson, runs through the old farm where he first settled.

Nathan and Amos were both born in Wales; Nathan, the 28th day of March, 1756, but the records of the town of Wales, do not show the date of the birth of Amos. He was younger than Nathan, married Mary Nelson, and removed to Whitingham, Vt., when the town was almost an unbroken forest, procured a large tract of land about the centre of the town. The records show that he deeded several farms in that vicinity to new settlers; and that he deeded to the the town, the ten acres of land called "The Common," for public purposes; and also a lot for the burying ground, north of the centre village. His name appears in the first Grand List that the records show taken in town 1781; he was chosen Town Clerk the second year of the town's organized existtence, and constantly held some of the important offices in town while he remained in Whitingham; about fifteen years. He had four children by his first wife, all born in

Whitingham, where she died. He then returned to Wales, and married two other wives.

Nathan Green, the common ancestor of the Green families in Whitingham, married Sarah Shields, May 10th, 1780, and immediately removed from his native town to Whitingham, Vt. He, with his wife, were amongst the pioneer settlers of this new township; they came when it was nearly all the way from Greenfield an entire wilderness, and were obliged to travel on foot or horseback, (guided a large share of the way only by blazed trees), to reach their new home, with most of their outfit to start housekeeping. He had previously been up and purchased land, and built a log cabin in the midst of a dense forest, where the howling wolf roamed unmolested, and the red men were frequently seen about the banks of the pond that still bears an Indian name. He lived in this rude cabin till he could clear up a patch of land and build a more comfortable dwelling. Being a very large and powerful man, capable of great physical endurance, inured to the toils and hardships incident to first settlers in a foreign wilderness, he soon built a comfortable house and established a permanent home, a short distance west from where Dr. Waters Gillett now lives. There he lived for nearly fifty-eight years, and there he died.

His descendants represented no small share of the enterprise and business interests of the town in its most prosperous days. They were conspicuous and worthy citizens, of more than ordinary business enterprise. His family consisted of eleven children, five sons and six daughters, all born on the farm where he first settled. Most of them settled and spent the principal part of their lives in their native town. Their names and the dates of their birth were as follows:

Hannah Green, born January 31, 1781, married Lincoln Hall, went to Pennsylvania.

Alfred Green, born November 21, 1783, married Clarissa Smith of Halifax, Vermont.

Rhoda Green, born July 12, 1785.

Lydia Green, born April 17, 1787.

Polly Green, born June 21, 1789.

Anna Green, born October 21, 1791.

Nathan Green, Jr. born December 3, 1793.
Twins, born March 17, 1795.
Daniel Green, born December 18, 1796.
Sally Green, born March 3, 1799.

Nathan Green, died at his home Sunday, March 6, 1838.
Sarah (Shields) Green, died May,—1843.

Hannah Green married Lincoln Hall, left Whitingham and went to Pennsylvania and was not an inhabitant of this town.

Alfred Green, so long and well known as one of the leading men in the town of Whitingham, bought lands off the southwest part of his father's original purchase, and what was then called "The Dunnel Farm" adjoining, and established a home, where he and his wife spent their long and useful lives, and where they both died. He was one of the most noted men of Whitingham; a man of remarkable power of endurance, active and energetic in his business, scrupulously honest, and upright in his course of life, though not a seeker of public favor, he gained the universal confidence of his fellow townsmen. Early in life, he learned the carpenter's trade, and though not seventeen years old, he was one of the workmen on the old Meeting-house in the centre of the town. He soon became what was called a "Master Carpenter," and for thirty years or more, he built a larger proportion of houses and barns in this town, than any other man ever did. He was always genial and good natured, free from dissipating habits, had a remarkable strong constitution, and at the age of seventy-five was lively and spry as a boy. And even up to his last sickness, of only a few day's duration, he was able to do a good day's work. He worked in the hay-field the day before he was taken down with his last sickness, was overtaken by a sudden shower, got wet, and took a violent cold, and the shock was too much for his system to overcome, it brought on a typhoid dysentery that terminated in death, July 19, 1873. His wife, Clarissa (Smith) Green, died June 21, 1868.

Their family consisted of four sons, and three daughters, viz: Eli Green, born October 9, 1812, married Elvira Dix, of

Whitingham, January 5, 1835. Alfred Green, Jr., born August 7, 1814, married first, Gratia Carley, of Whitingham, August 27, 1837. She died July 14, 1843. He married for a second wife, Mrs. Clarinda Murdock, January 16, 1844.

Reuben Green, born February 18, 1817, married first, Lydia Waste, of Whitingham, October 30, 1842.

Polly Green, born February 2, 1819, married first, Jonathan Carley, of Whitingham, September 5, 1837. Mr. Carley died January 17, 1857 and she married second, Luther Gale, a native of Heath, Mass., but for a long time lived in Whitingham.

Asa Green, born October 6, 1821, married Juliana Wheeler, of Whitingham, April 19, 1849.

Miranda Green, born November 11, 1824, married S. D. Faulkner, of Whitingham, November 11, 1845.

Clarissa Green, born December 18, 1833, married D. B. Flint, January 12, 1853.

Rhoda Green married David Hosley, Jr., Dec. 4, 1805, She died July 26, 1806. David Hosley, Jr. then married Lydia Green, a sister of his first wife, April 14, 1807. They had a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters, all born in Whitingham, as follows:

Susan Hosley, born April 8, 1809, married Horace Allard, April 3, 1842.

Alexis C. Hosley, born October 13, 1810, married Eliza Robertson, February 24, 1834.

Alonzo D. Hosley, born March 13, 1813, died July 26, 1815.

Rhoda Hosley, born October 16, 1814, died in 1872.

Fernando C. Hosley, born June 4, 1816, his wife's name unknown, died in 1863.

Joel G. Hosley, born October 13, 1820, died January 1, 1837.

Matilda Hosley, born September 2, 1824, died March 7, 1846.

Calista Hosley, born June 25th, 1830, died in 1860.

David Hosley, Jr., lived in Whitingham till about 1837, when he left town and went to Charlemont, Mass. He lived with his father-in-law, Nathan Green, on the old homestead for a number of years before he left this town. None

of his children lived in this town for any great time, except the oldest, Mrs. Allard, who lived in Whitingham awhile. Her husband, Horace Allard, was a noted wood-working mechanic, a first-class cabinet-maker and house-joiner.

David Hosley, Jr., died at Charlemont, Mass., November 13, 1847 ; Lydia (Green) Hosley, died December 3, 1864.

Anna Green, born August 21, 1791, married Abner Kingsbury, in 1811.

They had six children born in Whitingham, four sons and two daughters, as follows :

Lucetta, born April 13, 1813, George, born February 9, 1815 ; but whom they married, if married at all, is not given.

Hannah, born December 14, 1881, died August 20, 1854.

Nathan Green, born March 20, 1820, died in Illinois, date not known.

Uriah, born May 2, 1822, date of death unknown.

Elliot, born February 18, 1824, date of death unknown.

This family all left Whitingham at an early day of their lives and consequently form little part of the town's history.

Abner Kingsbury, died in Illinois, date of death not known.

Anna (Green) Kingsbury, died June 10, 1847.

Nathan Green, Jr., born December 3, 1793, married Lydia Lesure, June 20, 1816.

He bought a farm of his father, and settled a short distance south of the old Green homestead. He was an active, enterprising business man, a manufacturer of brick, as well as a farmer ; was a staunch supporter of the Universalist society in Whitingham, in the early stages of its organization, a firm believer in that faith till the day of his death, a little eccentric in some of his ideas, but a man of good moral habits, and merited the respect of all that knew him. His family consisted of two sons and two daughters, besides one son that died in infancy ; their names were as follows :

Jane Green, born December 31, 1821, married John P. Dix of Whitingham, April 14, 1839.

Linus Green, born June 9, 1825, married Martha Raymond, February 3, 1863.

George Green, born March 27, 1827, married Mary P. Bower, January 25, 1854.

Susan Green, born March 22, 1829, married Bradford L. Bowen, January 23, 1853.

None of these children, except Jane (Mrs. Dix) settled in Whitingham. She spent her life in this town, died at her home April 12, 1860. The other three live in different localities in Massachusetts.

Nathan Green, Jr., died at his home, November 30, 1837.

Lydia (Lesure) Green, died February 24, 1863.

Daniel Green, born December 18, 1796, married Mary Parker, Jan. 13, 1820. Settled on the farm known as "The Elder Ballou place," lived there till 1834, when he sold out to Rev. H. F. Ballou, and removed in September of that year, with his family, to Brownhelm, Lorain County, Ohio. His children born in Whitingham, were as follows:

Mary Ann, born March 4, 1821, died in Brownhelm, Ohio, September 29, 1835.

Freeman, born April 26, 1822, married Lucy M. Bristle, May 2, 1843.

Sophrona, born April 3, 1828, married Horace Peasley, April 3, 1848.

Alfred D., born September 25, 1829, died August 24, 1831.

Fannie S., born May 29, 1831, died May 2, 1832.

They had three other children, born in Brownhelm, Ohio, but that is no part of the family history in Whitingham. Daniel Green was not a man of any great notoriety while he lived in this town; was a quiet, peaceable farmer, a good citizen, but took little interest in the public affairs of his time.

Daniel Green died in Ohio, October 9, 1849.

Mary (Parker) Green, died in Ohio, date not known.

Sally Green, born March 3, 1799, married Enoch R. Bowen, November 14, 1819. They spent most of their lives in Whitingham. Mr. Bowen, as is well-known to a large portion of the present inhabitants of the town, was a man of considerable notoriety in Whitingham for a long time; not so much for being conspicuous in public matters, as in its industries, and mechanical enterprises. He was a first-class

wood-working mechanic, did an extensive business in the line of cabinet making, and house building, and for many years was the principal mechanic in town. Their children, born in Whitingham, were as follows :

Alfred, born October 14, 1820.

Dardana, born April 30, 1822.

Diantha L., born February 8, 1824.

Diana, born January 24, 1826, died in November, 1826.

S. Diana, born March 16, 1827.

Mercy L., born April 14, 1830, married Warner Streeter, died July 1, 1867.

George H., born July 25, 1832, died March 19, 1834,

Henry A., born May 15, 1835.

Minnie, born June 4, 1840.

Mr. Bowen, with his family left Whitingham, went to Shelburne Falls, Mass., where he and his wife both died.

Enoch R. Bowen, died October 28, 1878.

Sally (Green) Bowen, died at Shelburne Falls, January 20, 1870.

We shall not take space to give a particular account of the descendants of the fourth and fifth generations from Robert Green, the father of Nathan and Amos Green, that settled in Whitingham when it was almost an unbroken forest ; but we cannot do justice to our theme without giving a brief sketch of some of the most prominent that have identified themselves with the town's history. Eli Green, so long and well-known as one of the most prominent and active men in business circles, that Whitingham ever produced, lived on the old homestead with his father, Alfred Green. Industrious and persevering from his early youth, universally respected as a citizen, a leader in all social and business relations of his time, trusted at all times as a safe guide, and an unflinching friend.

He was extensively engaged in different kinds of business for many years, kept a store of general merchandise, owned and run a saw-mill, did a large lumbering business, was the contractor and builder of the meeting-house known as " The South Church," was frequently elected to responsible town offices, and two or three times represented the town in the General Assembly.

The church called "The South Church," was built by a union of the Methodist and Universalist societies, with an understanding that each should occupy it alternate Sabbaths. But unfortunately, the attempt to mix and harmonize, so widely divergent religious sentiments, in this instance proved a failure, and after the lapse of a few years, it was abandoned as a place of public worship, neither society feeling disposed to purchase the interest of the other, and for lack of care, and needed repairs, soon showed signs of premature decay, and shortly became unfit for a place of worship. And finally after twenty-seven years. was taken down, and the land on which it stood, reverted back to Dr. Gillett according to the conditions of the deed of conveyance.

The persevering energy and ambition, with which Eli Green engaged in his business operations, was too much for his physical constitution. At the early age of 35, it was evident he was taxing his physical powers beyond endurance, and impairing his naturally hale constitution. His health began to fail, and occasional hemorrhage from the lungs, at times so far prostrated him that he was unable to oversee his business. But he partially recovered from several attacks, so that he would be about, looking after his business affairs. Disease however, became permanently fixed in his system, and produced a rapid consumption that terminated in death, August 26, 1854, at the age of 42.

He had a family of six children, four of which survived him. Their names and the date of their birth were as follows :

Elvira Melissa, born August 13, 1838, married George W. Chase, April 30, 1859.

Eli Theophilus, born April 13, 1840, married Mary E. Blanchard, December 25, 1864.

Newton Reuben, born November 8, 1842, married Emma R. Hull, June 4, 1865.

Harriet Azubah, born June 6, 1845, died December 29, 1847.

Mary Ellen, born February 4, 1847, died April 11, 1848.

Frank Ashton, born January 15, 1849, lives in St Joseph, Mo.

Alfred Green, Jr., was not so much of a business man as his brother Eli, but no less an industrious and worthy citizen. He first bought of David Hosley, the old Nathan Green homestead, subject to a life lease of the old gentleman. He afterwards sold that place to Dr. Waters Gillett, and went to Jacksonville, bought the grist-mill in 1842, and run it till 1847, when it was burned with nearly all its contents, August 12th of that year. He soon after rebuilt it, with a basement story, in which he run a planing machine, circular saws, and other machinery. Lived in Jacksonville till 1853, when he sold out and went to Cambridge, Mass., and from there removed to Charlestown, where he died August 18, 1864, at the age of 50.

His children by his first wife, born in Whitingham, were as follows :

Sally Luana, born October 29, 1838, died July 22, 1864.

Merritt Sanford, born June 18, 1841, died May 30, 1860.

Gratia M., born June 24, 1843, died August 23, 1843.

Mrs. Gratia (Carley) Green, died July 14, 1843.

Alfred Green, Jr., for a second wife, married Mrs. Clarinda Murdock, January 16, 1844. Their children born in Whitingham, were :

Benjamin E., born July 7, 1846, died January 15, 1848.

Ellery B., born February 11, 1848, died October 14, 1850.

Forrest Denrel, born May 1, 1852.

Eli Gilmore, born in Massachusetts, July 16, 1854.

Mrs. Clarinda (Murdock) Green, still lives in Massachusetts.

Dr. Reuben Green of Boston, to whom we are chiefly indebted for the data from which we give this sketch of the Green family, is the third son of Alfred Green, Sr. At the age of 23, he left his native town, spent three or four years in travel and study, with a view of acquiring a better knowledge of the different sections of the country, and the customs and habits of the people in other localities, and the advantages and disadvantages of different places, and the soil and climate of different States. And after duly considering the facts and surrounding circumstances connected with the various locations visited, become fully convinced, that no part

of the country surpassed New England for industry and enterprise, social and moral culture, and all that conspires to an exalted civilization, and to make life desirable. Dr. Green says, "After summing up the results of my travel, study, research and observation, and wishing to make as much of life as possible, I returned to my native town."

After visiting his friends, and remaining in town a year or more, fearing his physical constitution was not sufficient to endure the severities of winter in this mountainous region, he went to Boston, where he has been engaged in the practice of his profession for more than thirty years. We cannot take space to give an account of his progress in that city, nor does that strictly pertain to the history of Whitingham.

His children, and the date of their birth, were as follows:

Chas. Reuben, born August 5, 1843, married Caroline E. Wayler, November 17, 1876; lives in St. Louis, Mo.

Jareb Alonzo, born November 5, 1845, married Lucretia B. Drew, October 4, 1867; lives in St. Louis, Mo.

William A., born August 10, 1849, died November 25, 1850.

Emma C., born February 24, 1852, died February 3, 1853.

Frank Eugene, born July 30, 1854, married Mary A. Green, November 8, 1876; lives in Boston.

Ella Mary, born November 16, 1856, married Albert J. Marston, June 8, 1877; lives in Leominster, Me.

Flora Estelle, born June 4, 1859.

Robert A., born April 30, 1861.

Lydia (Waste) Green, died June 14, 1868.

Dr. Reuben Green married for a second wife, Mrs. Rebecca L. Tilton, July 6, 1869.

Asa Green, youngest son of Alfred Green, settled in his native town, was a farmer, an industrious, quiet, unassuming man; a worthy, respected citizen, without an enemy; spent his life at the farm where he first settled, had a family of children as follows:

Nathan A., born April 4, 1850, married Ella J. Jewell, October 2, 1876.

Mary J., born December 20, 1851, married Schuyler Murdock, a native of Whitingham, and still lives in town, the wife of a thrifty and enterprising farmer.

Alfred C., born September 20, 1853, died July 31, 1873.

Alonzo W., born October 9, 1855, married Cora A. Lynde, November 12, 1878. He died in Whitingham, September 11, 1880.

Alice C., born October 3, 1857, married Norman F. Tainter, April 13, 1878; lives on the Asa Green homestead with his mother-in-law.

Asa Green died at his home, October 1, 1866.

Polly Green, oldest daughter of Alfred Green, married Jonathan Carley, a native of Whitingham, in 1837; lived in this town, followed farming principally, was noted for excellence in singing, and teaching the young people of his time in that art. Had a family of seven children, as follows:

Alfred, born December 13, 1838, died March 24, 1840.

Rufus W., born July 26, 1840.

Hattie Aurora, born February 28, 1842.

Alfred G., born January 14, 1847.

Herbert H., born February 18, 1850, married Callie S. Bolles, May 31, 1874.

Clara Amanda, born December 4, 1853, married Daniel Shepardson, November 28, 1872.

Eli Winthrop, born May 24, 1857.

Jonathan Carley, died January 17, 1857. His widow, Polly (Green) Carley, afterwards married Luther Gale, a native of Heath, Mass., May 25, 1862. Mr. Gale lived in Jacksonville, owned and run the grist-mill there a number of years; sold out there and bought a farm in School District No. 1, (known as the Levi Sumner farm) where he died October 27, 1877.

Miranda Green, second daughter of Alfred Green, married Shepard D. Faulkner of Whitingham, November 11, 1845. Mr. Faulkner was a successful farmer, spent his life in Whitingham up to 1885, when he left and went to Brattleboro, but returned to Whitingham after a year's residence there. For the last twenty-five years he has been one of the leading and influential men of the town, frequently elected one of the Selectmen, and other important offices of trust in town affairs. He accumulated a large property and was one of the wealthiest farmers that ever lived in Whitingham. His children born in Whitingham were:

William A., born September 14, 1848, married Alice Starr, September 21, 1877, is now cashier of the People's National Bank at Brattleboro.

Emma M., born October 19, 1854, married Henry H. Holbrook, May 4, 1873.

Emma (Faulkner) Holbrook, died December 17, 1882.

Clarissa Green, youngest daughter of Alfred Green, married David B. Flint, January 12, 1853; went to Orange, Mass., and has never lived in Whitingham since.

We shall not attempt a further detail of the fourth and fifth generation of the descendants of the Green family in Whitingham, as they nearly all left the town at an early age. Some of the children of Sally (Green) Bowen, however, spent most of their lives in this town. Alfred Bowen was for many years quite a prominent business man in Whitingham. He was clerk in Henry Goodnow's store for a few years, and afterwards went to Jacksonville, run a store in company with P. H. Sumner for two or three years, then bought Sumner's interest, and run the store alone for a few years, till he finally sold out and went to Shelburne Falls, Mass., where he was Post Master, and in other business operations for a long time; he died there December 18, 1877, at the age of 57.

Henry A. Bowen still lives at Shelburne Falls, and has for a long time been freight agent of the R. R. depot at that place.

BROWN FAMILY.

There is no family name, that fills a more conspicuous place in the town's history for the first half of the current century, than the Brown. Not that anything peculiar marked their course of life, or that they were the most active leaders of that age, but they were men of stern integrity, industrious and enterprising farmers, and wielded an influence both in the Church, and in business matters in the town, more salutary in effect, than any other one family ever did. The five brothers, and one sister (whose husband's name was Brown),

that settled in Whitingham, were from a family of twelve children, nine brothers and three sisters, all natives of New Ispwich, N. H. Their paternal ancestor, Josiah Brown, was a stout built, robust man, a direct descendant of the sturdy stock of English yeomanry, and he and his children, inherited the persevering energy of our Pilgrim Fathers. He was a man of marked ability and influence in the town where he lived—a true patriot, a devoted Christian, an active participator in the revolutionary struggle; fought in the battle of Bunker Hill, and his company was the last to retreat before the British Regulars. And he often related an incident of that battle, when visiting his children at Whitingham. He said, "After we had orders to retreat, a brave youth of seventeen, who had fought by my side all day, had just loaded his musket and was returning his ramrod to its place, when a British Officer rode up flourishing his sword, not ten feet distant, exclaimed, 'My boy, lay down your arms, we've won the day.' The young brave, nothing terrified, drew up his gun and shot the officer down, and retorted, "There G—— d—— you you've lost it, and turned and run amidst a shower of bullets, and escaped unharmed."

The names of the five brothers that settled in Whitingham from 1795 to 1807, was Josiah, Joseph, Jonas, Amos and Nathan; and the sister's name was Sarah; she married a man by the name of Reuben Brown. The five brothers were all members of the Baptist Church; three of them became members at the time of its organization in 1808. They were all farmers, and wielded an influence in the formation of the institutions of civilized society, in this new and sparsely settled township, upon a permanent basis, second to none others in this section of the State.

Josiah Brown, married Milicent Wright, and came to Whitingham about 1795, settled on the farm now owned by Joseph W. Morse, where he lived till he went to Bennington with his son Edmund, and lived there with him the rest of his days. He had a family of nine children; four of them only, lived to maturity; the rest died in infancy or quite young. The names of the four that lived to be men, were, Rufus, Clement, Edmund, and George W. Rufus was the

most prominent man of the four ; was often elected to important offices of trust in the town, was Clerk of the Baptist Church five years, and once represented the town in the General Assembly. He was a thrifty, well-to-do farmer,—owned and lived on the same farm for fifty-five years, and died at his home, August 9, 1875, at the age of 78.

Clement was a very quiet unassuming man, lived and acted as his conscience directed, troubling himself but very little about what was going on in the world around him. He spent most of his life in Whitingham, but moved to Halifax a short time before he died. He too, was a devoted member of the Baptist Church, married Polly Eames, had no children, died at Halifax, August 7, 1849, aged 49.

Edmund once owned and run the grist-mill in Jacksonville, but afterwards went to live with his father on the old homestead farm, where he worked at farming there, till they sold out and went to Bennington, where he and his father both died. Edmund bought a farm there and followed farming the remainder of his life. Josiah Brown died at Bennington, January 20, 1858, at the advanced age of 91. Edmund also died there at his home, October 11, 1866, aged 61.

George W. acquired a good education in early life, left this town when a young man, went to the State of Pennsylvania, where for aught we know to the contrary, he is still living.

Joseph Brown married Sally Preston, came to Whitingham about the same time his brother Josiah did, and settled on the farm north of, and adjoining his brothers, on which he spent his whole life, and where he died March 2, 1827. His family consisted of two sons, and one daughter : Joseph W., James P. and Jemima. The boys were known as Wright and Preston ; the former was long and well known as Capt. Brown, lived and died on the old farm his father first settled on, sometime before the commencement of the present century. He was always a prominent citizen of the town, a very good scholar for that time, was a carpenter by trade, and in his younger days worked at that business summers, and taught school winters. But after his father died, he followed farming and made that his entire business. He took

a deep and active interest in starting, and building up the business interests of the village of Jacksonville ; was a prominent and active member in the Universalist Society there ; was a firm and conscientious believer in that faith, a man of decided opinion, an independent thinker, liberal and generous to his opponents, and secured the respect of all that knew him. He died at his home July 18, 1855, aged 63.

Preston left a record less enviable, than any other one of the Browns in Whitingham ; but he married a highly respected lady, and had a respectable and intelligent family of children.

Jemima was an invalid for many years, and was supported by the town for several years before her death. She died of a lingering disease, by some called the leprosy.

Jonas Brown, familiarly known as " Deacon Jonas," married Lois Russell, came to Whitingham in 1797, settled on the farm (then an entire wilderness) lately owned by S. D. Faulkner. He had a family of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, one of which died in infancy, the rest all lived to maturity, and most of them to a good old age. Three, as we suppose, still survive. We shall not attempt in this sketch to give a detailed account of the members of this numerous and interesting family, it would take too much space in the town's history. A genealogical history of the Brown family in Whitingham, is being compiled, in which a more extended account will be given. We may be pardoned, however, in giving a brief outline of some of the more important members. " Deacon Jonas " was a man of sterling integrity, a pious and devoted Christian, modest and unassuming in his manners and habits, independent in his course of thought and action, ready at all times to assign a cause for his acts, and confirm his precepts by example. No man in Whitingham had less enemies than he, familiar and sociable with all, with malice or envy for none, he was known but to be respected.

His children were trained with scrupulous care, in the principles of truth and justice, and were not without an exemplary guide in the lesson of Christian virtue, and moral honesty. If any of them have ever departed from the path

of rectitude, it can by no means be for want of paternal training. They were all schooled to habits of industry and economy; the older ones, of necessity, subjected to the privations incident to a new and sparsely settled country. Without the means of an early education, and with very limited opportunities of association with the few children in that section of the town, it would be unreasonable to suppose they were the best of scholars. They, however, made the best use of their limited means for schooling, and by persevering effort acquired a commendable education for young people at that time. Books and newspapers were then ranked amongst the luxuries of life, and were accessible to but comparatively few. But with all these disadvantages, some of this family, by unwearied pains and persevering energy, made themselves very good scholars.

Harvey, although not amongst the oldest of the children, made himself one of the most noted school teachers Whitingham ever produced; he taught school with marked efficiency for about twenty consecutive winters, and had gained a reputation for that business rarely equalled. Besides that, he was a noted citizen of the town, a leader in the neighborhood where he lived, was frequently elected one of the selectmen and other town officers, and twice represented the town in the General Assembly.

Jeremiah, the oldest son, left this town and went to Stamford, in the county of Bennington, when quite a young man, and died there Mch. 4, 1849, at the age of 53. Russel, one of the younger brothers, of whom mention is made under the heading of the Baptist church, was a scholar. He died in Williams College in 1835, at the age of 23. Martin, whose career as a business man was most fully developed in establishing and building up the business interests of Jacksonville, died in the prime of life at the age of 51. All the rest of this family were industrious and worthy citizens, of more than ordinary intelligence. Most of them had large families, and many of their numerous descendants have left Whitingham for a broader field, where they could give full scope to their expanding professional and business abilities. Some of the descendants of this family have already worked themselves

up to an eminence in their chosen professions, and business occupations, that bids fair to be an honor to the world at large, as well as to their progenitors.

Amos Brown, so long the most conspicuous figure in the town of Whitingham, both in its political and business circles, married Sally Tarbell, and came to this town and settled on his old farm, so long known as the Esquire Amos Brown farm (now owned by Charles H. Waste), near the beginning of the present century. His family, that lived to maturity, consisted of three sons and two daughters. Elliot, the oldest son, was a very prominent man while he remained in this town. He was a scholar; studied medicine, and practiced his profession here with satisfactory success for several years, was deeply interested in the public affairs of the town, energetic and persevering in whatever he undertook, was town clerk for years, postmaster two years, and was a noted party leader in the centre village, in the political and business strifes of his time. He left this town, went to Shaftsbury, in the county of Bennington, practiced his profession there a few years, then went to Wisconsin, where we suppose he still lives.

Aldis, and Amos A., the other two brothers, remained in Whitingham. Aldis has long been one of the solid and thrifty farmers; has owned and lived on the same farm for more than half a century. He was for a long time a leading member, and a deacon of the Baptist church; a man of well-defined and independent principles. Although not a politician or seeker of public favor, he was by no means indifferent to the political interests of the state, or of the country. He has had two wives, and a large and interesting family of children, most of whom have left their native town, and are now extensively engaged in business in different sections of the country.

Amos A. lived with his father on the old homestead till 1849, when they left there and went to Jacksonville, built a house and lived there the remainder of their lives. Amos A. was more of a public man than Aldis; was deputy sheriff in this county for a number of years, and often held offices of trust in this town; was an active business man in matters

pertaining to the interest of the town, till his health failed and prevented his doing any kind of business. He lived with, and took care of his father and mother in their last years, and died at his home of a lingering disease, Jan. 2, 1869, at the age of 52.

One of the sisters in this family married F. G. Davis, of this town, and spent her whole life in Whitingham. She died in Dec., 1849, at the age of 40. The other sister married a Doctor Corkins, who practiced medicine a few years in the county of Bennington, then they went to Wisconsin, where she died at the age of 44.

Nathan Brown married Betsey Goldsmith and came to Whitingham about 1810, and settled on the farm lately known as the "Elder Lamb place." Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters, that lived to maturity. This family was the most remarkable for literary and theological talent of any family in town. Nathan, the oldest brother, was a noted scholar from his early boyhood; he went to Williams college, where he graduated with the highest honors as a scholar and a theologian, very young. He was sent to China and Japan, where he spent 23 years as missionary of the Baptist church; he then returned to his native country, edited and published a paper called "*The American Baptist*" a few years, then returned to foreign countries, where he died Jan. 1, 1886. He was one of the most profound philologists of the present age. Few men of any former age have been able to perform the mental labor he has accomplished. Having enjoyed remarkably good health through a long and laborious life, he has translated the New Testament into many foreign languages, has written and published many valuable theological works, both in English and foreign languages. He was a world-renowned scholar, and one of the leading lights of this age in the Baptist church. To do justice to his history would require more space than we can allow in this volume.

William G., the younger brother, was also a ripe scholar, and a devoted Christian; he has spent most of his life in earnest effort to instruct and enlighten his associates whenever opportunity offered. He also had a superior talent for

poetry, as the many specimens now extant clearly prove. He ranked high in the volume entitled "Vermont Poets and Poetry." He is still living, as we suppose, in the state of Wisconsin.

The elder sister in this interesting family married Jonathan Ballard of Charlemont, Mass.; had a large family of children, most of them now occupying prominent positions in society, and in the church. She is still living in Charlemont with her son, her husband having died about twenty years ago. The younger sister died unmarried in Charlemont, Mass., Sept. 9, 1872, age 54.

Some of the descendants of the Deacon Jonas and Nathan Brown families, have attained, and now occupy, the highest positions in the literary world, of any of the natives of the town of Whitingham. We very seldom find such combination of literary, theological and poetical talent in one small family, as the family of Deacon Nathan Brown possessed.

Reuben Brown's wife, the sister of these five brothers that settled in Whitingham, had an intelligent family of eleven children; and she, herself, was a woman that wielded a greater influence for good, both in the church and the district where she lived, than any other woman in the town of Whitingham at that time. She was a woman of extraordinary ability, and an acknowledged leader in the social, moral, and religious circles of that age. This family left Whitingham about 1825, went to Jefferson County, N. Y., since which time we are not familiar with their history, nor would it form any part of the history of this town if we were.

The aggregate number of the children of these five brothers and one sister that came to this town, near the beginning of the present century of the same generation, was forty-seven. Thirty-eight of them lived to maturity, and most of them to a good old age; and ten or more of them still survive, ranging from 75 to 90 years. This family of Browns, for the first half of the present century, were unquestionably the most noted of any family name in the whole town; they exercised a greater influence in forming the institutions, and moulding the character and habits of the people than any other family name. They were leaders in the Baptist church,

and took the front rank in the moral and intellectual training of the young people of that age. Their descendants being the most numerous of any family name, and all of them (with a single exception) ranking with the first-class of citizens. The Chase family came next to the Browns in numbers, but the general characteristics of these two families and their descendants were entirely different. While the Chase family turned their attention almost exclusively to the accumulation of property, the Browns wielded a much more salutary influence in establishing, and supporting, the social, moral, and religious institutions, pertaining to a high form of civilization. And for many years they ranked as foremost amongst the leaders, not only in church ordinances, but in political and business circles as well.

WASTE FAMILY.

Bezalell Waste, the paternal ancestor of the Waste family in Whitingham, was born in 1742 ; Joanna Waste, his wife, in 1743, but at what place we have not been able to learn. They lived a few years in the vicinity of Cape Cod, and Ebenezer Waste, Sr., so well known in this town fifty years ago, was born there in 1768. His father, Bezalell Waste, with his family, removed from Cape Cod to the town of Hague, near the shore of Lake George, in 1790. Ebenezer, soon after, left his father's family and settled in the town of Somerset, in the County of Windham. He there bought a large tract of land known as the "Meadows," and we understand the land still bears that name. He lived there about ten years, and his three oldest children were born there. In this lone wilderness his principal business was hunting and trapping, for which he possessed superior skill. In these ten years in this lonely forest home, he managed to accumulate twelve hundred dollars, besides supporting his family, chiefly by the sale of furs and skins captured with rifles, dogs and traps.

He married Lydia Baldwin of Mansfield, Conn., October

5, 1796, and immediately moved her into the wilds of Somerset, where they lived till 1804, when they moved to Whitingham. The town then being comparatively new, he bought a large tract of land, embracing not only his old home farm, but several farms adjoining. He lived on his old homestead more than forty years, was an industrious, enterprising farmer, was also for many years extensively engaged in the manufacture of brick; besides this, he was a cooper by trade, and worked at that business most of the time winters. He was a worker, and that was the rule, and not the exception with the people of Whitingham, at that age. Few of the settlers in Whitingham at that time, had any capital, except their farms (which were mostly native forests), and their power of endurance for labor.

His family consisted of three sons and one daughter, the date of their births and deaths are as follows:

Charles Waste, born July 3, 1798, went to the State of Ohio when a young man, married there, was a civil engineer by education and practice, was killed September 15, 1821, by the fall of a tree, leaving a wife and one child, who afterwards came to Whitingham, where the child, named Jerusha Maria, died July 19, 1822.

Ebenezer Waste, Jr., born October 20, 1801, married, first, Rebecca Fuller. She died June 26, 1826. He married second, about 1830, the widow of his elder brother, Charles Waste.

Uriah Waste, born June 1, 1804, and died unmarried February 6, 1856.

Deborah Waste, born August 12, 1807, married Levi Sumner, a native of Whitingham. They settled in Heath, Mass., where he died. She is still living, on the old homestead with her son, Oscar A. Sumner.

Bezalell Waste, the father of Ebenezer Waste, Sr., came to live with his son, Ebenezer, in Whitingham, and he and his wife lived there the remainder of their lives. Bezalell Waste died September 2, 1818, aged 76. Joanna, his wife, died May 20, 1815, aged 72. Ebenezer Waste, Sr., died at his home, December 13, 1847, aged 79. Lydia, his wife, died August 29, 1845, aged 76.

Ebenezer Waste and his two sons, Ebenezer, Jr., and Uriah,

lived together on the same farm, ever after they came to Whitingham, and when the sons became of age, they and their father apparently had all things common, in their business of farming, brick making and coopering; always enjoying perfect peace and harmony with each other, and the world around them. They never possessed that ambition for show, and for conspicuous position in the world, so prevalent at the present age, but were contented with the limits of their own farm, and lived a quiet, unobtrusive, conservative life.

The family of Ebenezer Waste, Jr., consisted of three children, two daughters and one son, by his first wife, as follows:

Lydia Waste, born June 26, 1822, married Dr. Reuben Green of Boston.

Amelia Waste, born May 5, 1854, married Diodorus Sawyer, September, 1847; they lived on the old Waste homestead. She died March 17, 1884.

Charles Waste, born November 15, 1825, married Hattie S. Warren, of Whitingham.

Rebecca Fuller Waste, wife of Ebenezer, Jr., died at her home June 26, 1726.

By his second wife, Ebenezer, Jr., had one daughter and two sons, the daughter married Lyman Stone of Royalston, Mass., a farmer and chair manufacturer.

George E. Waste, date of birth not known, married a lady in Boston, lives in San Francisco, Cal., occupation not known.

Lewis Sanford Waste, date of birth unknown, went to Michigan, married there, has one or more children, business unknown.

Ebenezer, Jr., died at his home on the old farm, June 17, 1878, aged 77.

Lucinda Waste, second wife of Ebenezer, Jr., died April 3, 1854.

Of the fourth and fifth generations of this Waste family from their common ancestors, we cannot give a full sketch in detail. Lydia, the wife of Dr. Green, who died in Boston, left seven children, of their residence and their history we know nothing of consequence. Amelia, the wife of Diodorus

Sawyer, living on the old Waste farm, has had six children.

Charles Waste, living in Rowe, Mass., is an enterprising farmer, has four children, two sons and two daughters. His oldest son in 1875 married Eleanor Bliss of Whitingham, and lives on the well-known farm where Amos Brown, Esq. spent his active, energetic and useful life, except his few last years. Their son, Charles H. Waste, has had two daughters, one died, date not known, making six generations of this Waste family, that lie buried, side by side, in the same graveyard in the southeast part of the town. This is an incident of very rare occurrence in a rural town but one hundred years old. This family, though not remarkable for any prominent acts, or participation in public enterprises, that marked the families of many of the old settlers in Whitingham, possessed some traits of character peculiar to themselves. They were a self-reliant set of people, and apparently took very little interest in what was going on in the world, outside the limits of their own farm.

STICKNEY FAMILY.

Silas Richard Stickney, the common ancestor of the Stickney families in Whitingham, was a native of Tewksbury, Mass., born April 7, 1751, married Sarah Upton of Reading, Mass. in 1774, by whom he had seven children. She died in 1793. He married for a second wife, Betsy Preston of Whitingham, Vt. He first settled in Temple, N. H., and on the alarm of war, April 19, 1775, marched to Cambridge—was one of those who were willing to pledge their fortunes and their lives for their country in 1776. On the 13th of May, 1777, he marched under Captain Josiah Brown, of New Ispwich, N. H., to Ticonderoga—was in John Starks' Brigade of volunteers, that marched from New Ipswich and joined the army under General Gates, at Stillwater, July 19, 1777, and was in the battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. And from the pay roll of record, it appears he was discharged on the 20th of September.

Silas and Martin Stickney, two of his sons, were for a long time well known in Whitingham, both born in Temple, N. H.; Silas, August 8, 1779, married Eunice Wood of Templeton, Mass., June 22, 1803, came to this town and settled on a farm in what is School District No. 1, half a mile south of where A. M. V. Hagar's saw-mill now stands. It was then an unbroken wilderness, but he bravely encountered the perils and hardships of pioneer life, while clearing up his farm, and establishing a future home for himself and family. He spent his whole life on the same farm where he cut the first tree. He reared and schooled a family of nine children; was a man of strong physical constitution and great power of endurance; was by trade a cooper, as well as a farmer, a little eccentric in his habits of life, but an industrious and worthy citizen. His wife died June 18, 1840. He married a second wife, Clarissa Foster, of Wilmington, Vt., May 4, 1842. She died April 21, 1848.

His children, all by his first wife, were as follows:

Silas Stickney, born April 8, 1804, married Matilda Garner.

Sarah Stickney, born October 2, 1805, married Duane Stimpson, first; Calvin Clark, second.

Martin Stickney, born May 19, 1807, married Charlotte Stickney, first; Mrs. Martha (Preston) Lamb, second.

Susan Stickney, born February 13, 1809, married John Haradon.

Stillman Stickney, born November 18, 1810, married Emeline Powers.

Rufus Stickney, born July 8, '12, married Adeline Kendal.

Silas R. Stickney, born April 20, 1814, died December 26, 1844.

Harvey Stickney, born June 2, 1816, married Mary A. Lake.

Lydia Stickney, born January 4, 1819, now living in Whitingham unmarried.

Silas Stickney, died at his home in Whitingham, November 17, 1857, at the age of 78.

Most of the children of this family left Whitingham at an early age, settled in different parts of the State of Massachusetts. Martin and Harvey were the only two of the sons

that stayed in this town. And Martin died at his home, December 6, 1874. He left but one child, a son named Lewis, who is now living in Jacksonville. Harvey, who is still living in this town, has three sons, two of which are living in Massachusetts, and the other, M.W. Stickney, was a merchant in the village of Jacksonville; has now moved to Brattleboro, where they all reside. Sarah (Stimpson-Clark) Stickney, lived and died in this town; she had four sons and three daughters, viz: Martin D. Stimpson, born May 5, 1828; Joel C. Stimpson, born September 16, '29; James M. Stimpson, born June 30, '31, died January 10, '42. Her first husband, Duane Stimpson, died September 7, '31.

She afterwards married Calvin Clark, of Whitingham, June 1, 1837. Their children were Francelia E. Clark, born March 23, '38; Dora A. Clark, born July 28, '39, died February 11, '64; Lucy L. Clark, born April 7, '41, died May 31, '64. Zimri A. Clark, born January 31, '44, enlisted in the army and mustered into service at Brattleboro, January 5, '64; was sick there, and obtained leave to go home to his mother in Whitingham, and died there before his company left Brattleboro. Francelia E., now Mrs. Pike, is still living in Whitingham. No other descendants of the family live in town.

Sarah (Stimpson-Clark) Stickney, died at her home in Whitingham, January 4, '82, at the age of 76.

Martin Stickney, born in Temple, N. H., April 22, 1784, married Hannah White, of Middletown, Mass., October 30, 1808; and came to Whitingham and settled on a farm, north of and adjoining his brother Siles' farm, where all his ten children were born. Was an industrious and well-to-do farmer. His children all born in Whitingham, were:

Prentice B. Stickney, born April 9, 1809, married Margaret B. Brazer.

Martha Stickney, born September 20, '10, married Daniel Cobleigh.

Hannah Stickney, born May 4, '13, married John S. Trott.

Elizabeth Stickney, born February 13, '15, died unmarried in '39.

Charlotte Stickney, born November 9, '17, married Martin Stickney.

Olive H. Stickney, born '19, married Robert R. Edwards.
Fanny Stickney, born '21, married David Edwards.
Samuel B., born '25, died in infancy.
Diana, born March 4, '27, married Daniel A. Cheney.
Mary Jane, born July 3, '32, married Wright P. Hall.

Mrs. Hannah (White) Stickney, died in Whitingham, Aug. 29, '50.

Martin Stickney died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Cobleigh, in Templeton, Mass., March 1, '63, at the age of 79.

This family all left Whitingham before 1855, except the wife of Martin Stickney, and settled in different parts of Massachusetts, and none of their descendants ever lived in this town. The farm on which they lived has long since been sold to different parties, the buildings demolished, and scarce a trace left to mark the spot where they stood. And the old Siles Stickney farm has shared the same fate.

The house, with its capacious old kitchen that half a century ago was the most favorite resort for the young people of that vicinity; where the athlete could give full scope to his agile powers, and where the regular anniversaries of the apple and pumpkin paring bees of that age had long been celebrated, and rolicking sports enjoyed, has long since disappeared, and no vestige remains to mark the place of this once favorite resort.

BRIGHAM FAMILY.

We shall not take space here to trace the genealogy of the Brigham family back to the first landing of their ancestors in New England; but the four Brighams that formerly lived in Whitingham were from a family of twelve children, ten of which lived to maturity. Their father's name was Edmund Brigham, born Oct, 9, 1758, at Westboro, Mass.; moved from there to Phillipston, and from thence to Templeton, where he died April 22, 1841. The names of the four brothers that lived in this town were John, Lyscom,

Edward, and Dexter. John, decidedly the most prominent of these four, was born in Westboro, Mass.; married, first, Rebecca Smith of Phillipston, Mass., came to Whitingham in 1808, settled on the farm where Albert J. Faulkner now lives, then a wilderness, where he spent his whole life. He had seven children by his first wife, three sons and four daughters, one of which died quite young. His first wife died Feb. 23, 1833.

He married for a second wife, Huldah Wheeler, of Halifax, Vt., Dec. 24, 1833, by whom he had three children, one of which died in infancy. He married for a third wife, Rebecca (Bardwell) Goss; she died July 5, 1844. He married for a fourth wife, Betsey (Preston) Brigham, widow of his brother, Lyscom Brigham. For nearly half a century after he came to Whitingham and got fairly settled in his new home, he was the most prominent leader in the section of the town where he lived (School District No. 1); was a thrifty, enterprising farmer; and besides that, was for many years largely engaged in the manufacture of scythe snaths, a great part of the year. He annually carried thousands of dozens to Worcester county and Eastern Massachusetts, where he found a ready market. He would also buy and carry to Boston or other markets, most of the surplus produce of the farmers in that section of the town, which fifty years ago was a matter of no small importance, consisting of pork, butter, cheese, poultry, etc., which he carted to Boston with horse or ox teams. For a quarter of a century, from 1815 to 1840, his services as a marketman for farmer's produce were considered indispensable to the farmers in that section. Genial and sociable with all, his house was the centre of attraction for a wide circle of friends,—always the welcome recipients of his generous hospitality, and the judicious counsel of himself and his amiable and intelligent family.

His six children by his first wife, that lived to mature age, were named Freeman, Harriet, Mariah, Addison, Elvira, and Francis. Freeman married Mariah Smith, went to Boston, Mass., worked there several years at the tanning and currying business; came back to Whitingham, and first started the tannery in Jacksonville in company with Daniel Dean, a

native of Halifax, Vt. They run the business there on a small scale, till Parley Starr came and bought them out in November, 1837. Freeman afterwards went to Wilmington, lived there a few years, and finally returned to Boston, where he now resides. He has not been a resident of Whitingham since 1838.

Harriet married Luke Farnsworth of Halifax, Vt., settled on a farm adjoining his father Brigham, built the house where Cyrus Boyd now lives, lived there till his wife died in 1872, and had a family of four children, none of which remained in this town.

Mariah married Merrick Chase, of this town, who lived in Jacksonville and in the centre of the town for about ten years. He was deputy sheriff for this county for a number of years ; he then went to Somerset, lived there a few years, went from there to White Creek, N. Y., and from there to the state of Illinois, where he now resides. None of his family live in this town.

Elvira married Joseph Goodnow, a native of Whitingham, who lived on the old Joseph Goodnow farm, and died there Sept. 14, 1847. They had one son, born in Whitingham, Dec. 28, 1843. His family left this town soon after his death, went to Athol, Mass., where his widow married Nathaniel J. Lord, where they now reside.

Addison, born Jan. 25, 1824, married Emily C. Parmelee, of Wilmington, Vt. He resides in Boston, Mass., is a baker, had two children born at Boston, has not lived in Whitingham since his marriage.

Francis, born Aug. 1, 1826, married Millicent A. Brown, daughter of Rufus Brown, of Whitingham ; went west, resides in Chester, Howard Co., Iowa.

The two children of John Brigham by his second wife ,that lived to maturity, were Minerva, born March 16, 1836, and Hosea W., born May 30, '37. Minerva married Charles H. Nelson, born Oct. 22, '25, at Wardsboro, Vt., lived in Whitingham till he enlisted in the army. He was either killed or died of disease in the United States service.

Hosea W. married Florilla R. Farnum, a native of Whitingham, went to live with his father on the old homestead,

and lived there about three years ; went to Boston and stayed there three or four years, came back to Whitingham, studied law in the office of H. N. Hix, of Sadawga, and was admitted to the bar in 1872. He practiced law in company with H. N. Hix, in the name of "Hix & Brigham," for about 3 years, when they dissolved partnership, and he practiced alone in this town till the fall of '81, when he left here and went to New Hampshire, where he now resides, practicing his profession.

Lyscom Brigham married Betsey Preston, a native of Whitingham, settled on the farm where J. L. Shippee now lives, lately known as the "Dea. Warren farm," where he died, Nov. 19, '44. He was not as prominent a man as his brother John ; but was a quiet, industrious, and respectable farmer. He had a family of six children ; three only lived to mature age, Abigail, Mary, and Lewis L. Abigail married Elisha Hagar, of Halifax, Vt., a farmer and horticulturist, and resides in Heath, Mass. Mary, residence not known. Lewis L. married Marcia A. Shearer, of Coleraine, Mass. ; supposed to reside at present in Wilmington, Vt.

Edward Brigham married Laura Cummings, of Phillipston, Mass., settled on a farm just over the line of Whitingham, in the town of Heath, Mass., and lived there till about 1843, then moved to Whitingham, bought and run the sawmill afterwards known as the "Hud Burrington Mill ;" after running that mill a year or two, he sold it and bought a small farm, formerly known as the "Elijah Smith place," between the S. D. Faulkner farm and North river, where he spent the rest of his life. He died at his home. He had a family of five children, only one of which, Charles E. Brigham, is now known to be living ; he married Sarah A. Lake, of Whitingham, and resides in Fitchburg, Mass. Joseph L., his youngest son that lived to maturity, enlisted in the army and died in the service. None of the descendants of that family now live in this town.

Dexter Brigham, whose home was in Whitingham for a dozen years or more, was a cripple ; one foot was so badly out of shape that he never could walk without crutches. But for all that he was an active, enterprising business man,

ambitious and persevering in all business matters. He followed peddling and trading most of the time ; was a shrewd, close calculator, quick to see the value of any species of property. He was also a very good scholar for that time, and sometimes taught school in the vicinity where he resided.

He died very suddenly at his brother John's, Nov. 4, 1832, at the age of about thirty-two years. It was supposed by many at the time, and not without some good reasons, that it was a case of suicide by taking poison. He was in usual health the day before, retired for the night as usual without any suspicion of ill health or anything else unusual by any of the family. A short time after he retired, he called to one of the children in an adjoining room to get some water, and also to bring him up an apple ; a pitcher of water and an apple or two was brought and placed upon a stand at the side of his bed, where a light was burning. Some two or three hours later some of the family heard him groaning as if in distress ; they got up and went to his room and found him insensible, and apparently dying. All efforts to arouse him to consciousness were unavailing ; and he lingered in that situation a few hours, when he died. He had drank part of the water and ate one of the apples carried him by the little girl. An empty vial was found about his bed, which they supposed by the smell had contained laudanum or something of the kind.

CHASE FAMILY.

We cannot go back in the geneological history of this family beyond David Chase, the paternal ancestor of the Chase families in Whitingham. He was the son of Benoni Chase, born in Douglas, Mass., April 17, 1752, married Jemima Humes of Douglas. Their children born in Douglas, were Abraham Chase, born September 25, 1772, married Betsey Rich of Douglas, and moved to Whitingham, February 16, 1797. Was long one of the prominent and wealthy

citizens of the town in its most prosperous days, often elected to positions of trust in town affairs; and died at his home in Whitingham, May 11, 1854, aged 81.

Isaac Chase, born in Douglas, January 29, 1775, married Susanna Fuller, of Douglas, came to Whitingham, February 3, 1800, was a thrifty and prominent farmer; a man of no great ambition for public notoriety, but was a quiet, industrious, and much respected citizen. He died at his home, March 30, 1825, aged 51.

Jacob Chase, born in Douglas, February 15, 1780, married Anna Morse, and moved to Whitingham, January 31, 1806, settled on a farm in the south part of the town, in what is now School District, No. 6, where he spent his whole life. He was a well-to-do farmer, not a man that took so much interest in public affairs as some others, attended closely to his own business. He and his wife were both members of the Baptist church, were consistent and exemplary Christians, and won the respect of all around them. He died at his home, August 9, 1858, aged 78.

Samuel Chase, born February 22, 1782, married Mabel Balcom, and moved to Whitingham with his father, David Chase, in February, 1815, settled on the farm where Hiram Plumb now lives, where David Chase died, October 20, 1841, aged 89. Soon after the death of his father, Samuel Chase sold his farm and moved to Wilmington, where he died in November, 1854.

Benjamin Chase, born September 7, 1786, married Sarah Sprague, moved to Whitingham, February 15, 1815, settled on a farm, where he spent his whole life; was an industrious, prudent farmer, a little eccentric in his habits, but an independent and worthy citizen. He died at his home.

These five brothers, all prominent and enterprising farmers in the most prosperous days of the town, and their families and descendants that remained in this town, make an important factor in the town's history. The aggregate number of their children was thirty-two; twenty-seven of which lived to maturity. Twenty-four of these married in Whitingham, most of them spent their lives here. We cannot in this sketch give a detail of all the children of these five fam-

ilies, but only allude briefly to some of the most prominent in the business affairs of the town, of the third generation, from the common ancestor. These Chase brothers of the second generation, were not so much inclined to literary or political prominence as many others in town at the age in which they lived, but devoted their energy to the accumulation of property. They were amongst the wealthiest men of their time, though by no means indifferent to the management of public affairs. But the prudent and careful calculations for obtaining property, engrossed the largest share of their attention. Abraham Chase was occasionally elected one of the Selectmen of the town, and held other positions of trust and responsibility ; was a man of sound judgment in public as well as private matters, and his counsel was often sought by his fellow townsmen.

The family of Abraham Chase consisted of five sons, as follows: David Chase, born December 12, 1798, married Irene Kingsbury, February 12, 1818, spent his life in Whitingham, was a prominent and wealthy farmer,—lived on the same farm nearly sixty years, was actively interested in the public affairs of the town, served as one of the selectmen and other offices several years, was a close observer of current events, both in town and State. He died at his home, June 15, 1880, at the ripe age of 83.

Samuel Chase, born February 22, 1802, married Betsey Clements, lived in Whitingham in different places till about 1835, then left this town, went to Bennington, engaged in farming, and was one of the most conspicuous and wealthy farmers in that town. He never returned to Whitingham to live.

Jacob Chase, born February 8, 1804, married Lucinda Boyd, was a rich farmer, and his eccentric and peculiar habits, although he lived in Wilmington, was well-known to the people of Whitingham.

Ellis F. and Elliot F. Chase (twins), born July 31, 1812. Ellis F. married 1st, Sally Boyd, 2d, Lydia Stanley. Elliot F. married 1st, Hannah Foster, 2d, Eliza Greene (dates of marriage not known). Ellis F. and Elliot F. Chase both settled in Whitingham, engaged in business at Jacksonville

a few years; they run a store, and the village hotel for a short time, one or both of them had an interest in a wadding factory there, that was burned in 1847, but soon quit those enterprises and went to farming. Ellis F. bought a large farm and went to farming on too large a scale for his ability in that occupation, and was soon obliged to sell his farm for what he could get. He removed to Halifax, where he now lives.

Elliot F. also went to farming in this town, followed that business to the time of his death.

The Isaac Chase family of seven children were as follows: Moses Chase, born March 2, 1800, married Anna Briggs, Oct. 7, 1821. Settled on the farm where his son, J. B. Chase, now lives; he spent his whole life on that same farm, and died at his home, Oct. 6, 1850, in the 51st year of his age.

Aaron Chase, born November 2, 1801, married 1st, Lucy Corkins, October 18, 1726, bought a small farm, lived in this town till his wife died. He then married 2d, Esther Scott, May 15, 1852, left this town and went to North Adams, where he died.

Isaac and Susannah Chase (twins) born July 14, 1804. Isaac died Oct. 10, '06, and Susannah married Baxter Adams, lived in Halifax, afterwards went to North Adams where they died.

Isaac Chase, Jr. born June 19, 1801, married Harriet Goodnow June 19, '33. He lived on the old homestead where his father lived and died; he was for a long time one of the most wealthy and respected farmers in Whitingham; a quiet unassuming citizen of more than ordinary sagacity; possessed no great desire for popularity, but attended exclusively to his own private affairs. He died at his home.

Hiram Chase, born Oct. 9, 1812, married Annis Hall, April 23, 1835. Settled in the town of Marlboro, where he still lives, a wealthy, enterprising, and much respected farmer.

The family of Jacob Chase, consisted of eight children; five sons and three daughters.

Warren Chase, born Nov. 30, 1805, married Anna Fairbanks (date not known), bought and lived on the farm where his son, Wilbur F. Chase, now lives. He died at his home April 4, 1861, aged 56.

Lydia Chase, born Jan. 13, 1808, married Emory Hull (date not known). They lived in Whitingham, in different places in and about the centre village, till her husband died in 1840; she then went to live with her father a few years, then went to Susquehanna, Pa., where she died.

Levi Chase, born Aug. 26, 1810, married Sarah Harris (date not known), was a farmer, settled in Heath, Mass., where he died Feb. 9, 1851.

Jacob C. Chase, born May 21, 1815, married Caroline Gore, lived in Readsboro 16 years, and was town clerk there 6 years; sold out there and came to Whitingham in 1865, bought the old Joseph Goodnow farm, lived there ten years, then sold out there and went to Jacksonville, bought the place once known as "the lower hotel," where he still lives, a wealthy and respected citizen.

Minor Chase, born Sept. 7, 1817, married Lucinda Tarbell, lived with his father on the old homestead some time, and then bought a place down on North river, and lived there most of his days. He died at his home there, August 8, 1881.

Lucy A. Chase, born Nov. 9, 1819, died Jan. 31, '38.

Willard Chase, born Dec. 5, '23, died Nov. 21, '25.

Samuel Chase, with whom his father, David Chase, lived, had a family of five children, three sons and two daughters.

Rufus Chase, born Oct. 11, 1805, married Mary Hall, was a noted school teacher in his youthful days, started in life as a farmer at the place formerly known as "the checkered house," a little east of the centre village; was elected town clerk in 1832, and held that office till '37. He soon after quit farming and went into trade in the centre village in company with Reuben Winn, and traded under the firm name of "Winn & Chase" till he died, April 26, 1846.

David Chase, born July 6, 1807, died in infancy.

David Chase 2d, born April 15, '09, married Betsey Tainter, settled in Whitingham a farmer, and made that his exclusive business while he lived. He died young at his own home, of consumption and heart disease, March 21, '37, at the age of 28.

Fanny Chase, born Feb. 21, '18, died April 13, '31.

Paulina Chase, born Oct. 21, '22, married, first, Asel Rice; second, Charles Bowker, of Wilmington; third, Newman Carley, a native of Whitingham. They now live in Wilmington.

The Benjamin Chase family was five sons and two daughters.

Sumner Chase, born April 21, 1807, married Roxanna Faulkner, March 16, '51. He spent his whole life in Whitingham, and was an invalid for a number of years, but afterwards recovered his health so far as to be able to labor some; was a farmer, a quiet unassuming man, a little eccentric in his habits, but an independent and worthy citizen. He died at his home, at Lyman Dalrymples, in Whitingham, Feb. 2, 1885.

Jemima Chase, born Dec. 11, 1809, married P. B. Putnam, Dec. 5, 1830, lived in Whitingham five or six years, then went west, where she died.

Merrick Chase, born Dec. 13, 1811, married Mariah S. Brigham, Sept. 11, 1834, spent his early life in Whitingham, and was quite an active business man. He first went into the wool-carding and cloth-dressing business with Willard Foster at Jacksonville, sold out there in a few years and went to the centre village on the hill, was deputy sheriff there for a long time; he next went to Somerset, engaged in the lumbering business a few years, then went to White Creek, N. Y., and into farming on a larger scale; was prosperous in his business, and sold his farm at an advance of about $3000. He finally moved from there to one of the western states where he now lives, and with his sons is engaged in farming; they are wealthy and prosperous.

Abraham Chase, born April 20, 1816, died April 18, '18.

Abraham Chase 2d, born Jan. 5, 1820, married Catharine Reed, April 23, '44; he is, and for a long time has been, a prominent man in the business affairs of the town, a wealthy farmer, a close observer of men and things, of more than ordinary sagacity; an independent thinker, frequently elected to offices of trust and responsibility in town business, a man of decisive opinions in all matters of public or private inter-

est. He is too well known to the present generation to need comment.

Luana Chase, born Feb. 21, 1821, died Sept. 3, 1854, aged 33.

Royal Chase, born Aug. 3, 1827, married Margaret Howard, July 4, 1851; is a farmer, has spent his whole life in Whitingham, a man of no great ambition for public notority, a quiet, industrious citizen, and attends almost exclusively to his own private business.

To trace the genealogy of the Chase family beyond the third generation from their common ancestors, would require more space than would be profitable in this sketch; we have confined our sketches to the second and third generations, which has been the rule adopted in most of the biographical sketches of families. To trace the descendants of these large families that settled here about the commencement of the present century, down to the present time, would be quite a task and of little essential interest.

PRESTON FAMILY.

Capt. Samuel Preston was a prominent and influential man in the town of Whitingham in the early part of the present century; a superior scholar for that age, a man of strong impulse and mental and physical force, well adapted to leadership in the formation of social order, and in the organization of human society. And he did much to establish and guide the institutions best calculated to enhance the literary and social progress of the people of this comparatively new township. He was a noted school teacher and singing master for that time, and contributed largely to the social training and education of the young people. He was a carpenter and builder by trade, an industrious and worthy citizen, devoting the best of his energies to the improvement and social welfare of his associates, and fellow-townsmen. He was often elected to positions of trust and responsibility in town affairs.

We have no genealogical history of the Preston family, but Capt. Samuel Preston, the paternal ancestor of all the Prestons of Whitingham, was a native of Littleton, N. H., born May 18, 1769, married Susanna Phelps in August, 1797. They came to Whitingham in June, 1800, and first settled on the farm that Rufus Brown afterwards owned and lived on for more than 55 years. They afterwards lived at several different places in the town of Whitingham; had a family of eleven children, all born in Whitingham except the oldest. They all lived to maturity, and most of them to a good old age. We can but briefly allude to them in this sketch.

Sophrona Preston, born Jan. 1, 1798, married Elijah P. Stone, of Whitingham.

Betsey Preston, born July 11, 1800, married, 1st, Liscom Brigham; 2d, John Brigham.

George Preston, born March 12, '02, married Esther A. Dennison, of Halifax.

Susanna Preston, born Jan. 27, '04, married Thomas Smith, of Whitingham.

Polly Preston, born June 3, '06, married Ira Lovering, of New Hampshire.

Sally Preston, born June 13, '08, married Erastus Hall, of Readsboro.

Osmyn Preston, born Oct. 27, '11, married Clarissa Dix first; Effa Lamb, second.

Lorenzo Preston, born Dec. 3, '14, married Lucy Clark, of Whitingham.

Alcander Preston, born Dec. 14, '17, married Wealthy Porter first; Jane Bolton second, both of Rowe, Mass.

Martha Preston, born Aug. 13, '20, married Arad Lamb first; Martin Stickney, second.

Abiathar W., born March 19, '23, married Betsey Ann Bond, of Whitingham.

The five brothers in this family all spent a large share of their lives in this town, though none of their descendants remain here; they were active, enterprising citizens, possessed of more than ordinary intelligence, and by nature a good share of common sense. In town affairs, and public matters generally, they took a prominent and active part;

were leading members of the Universalist society, and did much to build up and support the same. The principal business of the four oldest of these brothers, while they lived in this town, was farming. George and Osmyn left Whitingham many years ago, and went to Halifax and followed farming there, where they both died, Osmyn, Jan. 28, 1876.

Lorenzo left Whitingham about 1860, went to North Adams, Mass., was engaged in the livery business a number of years, afterwards went into the meat business, and followed that several years; and for the three last years of his life he was road-master, having charge of all the roads in North Adams. He died in January, 1877.

Alcander, so long and well known to the people of Whitingham as a prominent and well-to-do farmer, as well as a business man in the public affairs of the town, was often one of the selectmen, and held other positions of trust. He was one of the most active and efficient members of the Universalist society at Jacksonville; few, if any, were more sincerely devoted to the interests and progress of that society, or labored with more untiring effort to sustain what he believed to be the true principles of Christianity and good morals than he. He was a man of firm convictions, independent and self-reliant, and while he lived in this town was one of its leading citizens. He is now a resident of the town of Halifax, a noted farmer and a leading citizen.

Abiathar W., the youngest of the five brothers in this family, early in life turned his attention to the study and practice of law. He made that his chief business while he remained in Whitingham. About 1855, he formed a partnership with H. N. Hix, and practiced in company with him a year or two under the firm name of "Hix & Preston;" they dissolved partnership and he practiced alone, till the spring of 1858, when he left Whitingham and went to North Adams, Mass., where he has attained an eminence as a lawyer at the Berkshire bar. He is too well known both in this county and Western Massachusetts, to need comment here

Four of the sisters in this Preston family spent their lives, or most of their lives, in this town. Sophrona, Mrs. Stone, spent a long and well-directed life on the same farm where

they first settled. She died March 31, 1881, at the ripe age of 83. Betsey, Mrs. Brigham, lived in Whitingham nearly all her life ; she spent a few of her last years with her son-in-law, Elisha Hagar, in Heath, Mass. She died April 8, 1884, aged 74. Susanna, Mrs. Smith, spent her whole life in Whitingham, and died at her home Jan. 21, 1856. Martha, Mrs. Lamb-Stickney, has, and still does, live in Whitingham.

TAINTER FAMILY.

Deacon Jonathan Tainter, the paternal ancestor of the Tainter family in Whitingham, was born in Westboro, Mass., 1755 ; married Jemima Root, of Somers, Ct., Sept. 21, 1776. A few days after, he joined the army under George Washington, and served in New York and New Jersey till the close of the campaign in 1778.

Josiah W. Tainter, so long a resident in Whitingham, was the oldest son of this Dea. Jonathan Tainter, born Jan. 26, 1782, married Molly Davis, of Somers, Ct., Aug. 26, 1803. He settled in Whitingham, on the farm that James M. Tainter now lives on, and spent his whole life there. He was one of the thrifty, industrious, enterprising farmers, of which the town of Whitingham was made up, for the first quarter of this century. He was a member of the Baptist church more than forty years ; was not a prominent man in the public affairs of the town, but a quiet, peaceable, and worthy citizen, honored and respected by his fellow townsmen, and by his brethren in the church. His family consisted of six children, three sons and three daughters.

Rebecca, born Jan. 15, 1805, married Benjamin Eames, a native of Whitingham, but spent most of his life in Halifax, Vt. He was a farmer, and a very powerful man physically ; could perform more hard labor than almost any other man of his time. He was a road-builder, and took some contracts grading railroads.

Betsey, born Sept. 8, 1809, married David Chase, Oct. 6, 1829. He died March 21, 1837 ; she married, second, Isaac Allard of this town, and spent her whole life in Whitingham. She married, third, Henry Goodnow of Whitingham, and is still living.

Norris D., born March 6, 1812, married Sarah Martin of Whitingham, Sept. 2, 1834. He was a farmer, has spent most of his life in Whitingham, although he sold out and went to Jefferson County, N. Y., and stayed a few years, then came back to this town where he now lives. His wife, Sarah (Martin) Tainter, died at her home in this town. He has one daughter, Mrs. Lucinda (Tainter) Dix, also living in town. He married, second, Mariah Stratton, of Heath, Mass.

Lydia, born July 5, 1814, married Joseph Farnum, and spent her life in this town, mostly in the village of Jacksonville. She died at her home in 1879. She had two daughters, one of which, Mrs. Upton, now lives in town.

Josiah W., born March 1, 1818, married Elizabeth Russell, of Northampton, Mass., Nov. 5, '38. He left this town when quite a young man, went to Holyoke, Mass., where he was killed on the railroad by accidentally falling between two cars, Feb. 20, '54, at 35 years of age.

James M., born April 5, 1821, married Catherine Lake of Whitingham. He is one of the few thrifty and enterprising farmers that understand the business at the present time in Whitingham. He has spent his whole life in this town, and lives on the farm his father settled on when he first came to town, about 80 years ago. Has a family of four sons, three of which now live in Whitingham ; is one of the few farmers now in Whitingham that make that a paying business.

A Deacon Jonathan Tainter, a brother of Josiah W. Sen., came to Whitingham in 1804, and lived with John Cooley, who had married his oldest sister, Polly. He married a wife from Marlboro, Vt., a daughter of Dea. Benjamin Bowman, Dec. 31, 1821 ; he, together with Cooley, soon left Whitingham and settled in the western part of the state of New York. Another sister of Josiah W. Tainter, Sen., Jemima

married Joel C. Shumway, of Whitingham, but whether they lived in this town after they were married, the records do not show.

There was a Dr. Stephen Tainter settled and practiced medicine in Whitingham a long time ; he was the first settled physician in town of which we can find any account. He was born in Westboro, Oct. 13, 1760, and came to this town some 8 or 10 years after its organization, practiced his profession here with satisfactory success till about 1803, when he left town and went to Gainsville, N. Y. He married Elizabeth Gorham, a native of Barnstable, born Dec. 20, 1760 ; she died in Whitingham, Oct. 3, 1801. He was uncle to Josiah W. Tainter, so long and well known in Whitingham ; was said to be a very skillful physician, a man of superior ability, a scholar, and a poet. He was through life a member of the Congregational church, served in the Revolutionary war, was drummer boy at the battle of Bennington, and was also at the taking of Burgoyne in 1777.

ROBERTS FAMILY.

We have no reliable record of the genealogy of the Roberts Family, back of James Roberts, the patarnel ancestor of the Roberts families in Whitingham. James Roberts was amongst the first settlers in the town ; he came from Connecticut when the town was almost an entire wilderness, settled on and cleared up the farm known as the "old James Roberts farm." He was a very prominent man in the early history of the town ; his name first appears in the records as one of the town officers, in 1783 ; and from that to 1800, was constantly in some important office in town and state. Was one of the Selectmen of the town ten years ; and was Town Clerk five years, before the commencement of the present century ; represented the town in the General Assembly, in 1794 ; and afterwards represented the town in the General Assembly of the state, for seven consecutive years from 1797 to 1803, inclusive. This is a longer succession of years than

any other one man held that position. He again represented the town in 1806 and 1807; besides filling many positions of trust in the town, and county, and state.

He married Eunice Nimms of Greenfield, Mass., and they spent their whole lives on the farm where they first settled, and the same has remained in the Roberts family to the present day. They had four sons, who spent most of their lives in Whitingham. For the first quarter of a century of the town's organized existence no man did more to establish an order of things best calculated to elevate the people in social and civil progress, than James Roberts.

There was but one man, and that was Jabez Foster, that was his equal; the records show that these two men of all others, were the most conspicuous figures in public affairs, constantly entrusted in the most important positions, in guiding the interests, and shaping the destines of this inchoate town.

James Roberts, Senior, died at his home, March 12, 1825, aged 79. His wife, Eunice (Nimms) Roberts, having died about two months before, aged 66.

Judge John Roberts, the oldest son, so long and well known as one of the leading citizens of Whitingham in its most prosperous days, lived on the place lately known as the "Ellis Gates place;" was a lawyer by profession, a prominent man in all public matters, both in town and state; and was one of the Judges of the County Court for several years, and represented the town in the General Assembly for five consecutive years from 1819 to 1823 inclusive: and also served as member of the council. He again represented the town in legislature in 1832 and 1833. He left this town about 1836 went to Townshend, where he practiced in his profession the remainder of his life.

He was a democrat in politics; in the days of the old Whig and Democrat parties, was a recognized leader of the democrat party, while he lived in this town, a man that always acted from a principle of justice and equal rights, and at all times ready to give the reasons for his political faith. Few, if any, in the whig party of that time, were his equal in political controversy; was a sound and logical reasoner, basing

his arguments upon historical facts, and the fundamental principles on which our government was founded. He was undoubtedly the prime mover, in establishing a store near his dwelling house, built and run by Saxton Plumb, (who married one of his daughters,) and establishing a Post Office there, by the name of "Point Pleasant." But his far-reaching sagacity, together with the counsels of his brother, James Roberts, soon convinced him that no business centre of any importance, could ever be established in that locality. Accordingly he and his brother James conceived the idea of having the store and Post Office removed to Jacksonville, or, as that place up to that time had been known, to "Martin's Mills;" but some waggish spirits in the centre of the town, had just before that time named it "New Boston."

This was in the days of Andrew Jackson; although he was defeated as a candidate for President in 1824, by the election of John Quincy Adams, by the House of Representatives; he was the man of the democrat party in this section. And as the northeastern section of the town, was the stronghold of the democrat party in Whitingham, they had the name of the Post Office changed from Point Pleasant to Jacksonville. And this village bore that name after that.

For about ten years from that date, the whig and democrat parties in Whitingham, were very near equal, both as to numbers and ability of leadership, and no town in this part of the state, had more closely contested, and ably conducted election strifes, than Whitingham. John and Horace Roberts headed the democrat party; Amos Brown, and Elisha Putnam led the whig party; and no effort was spared on either side, to get every man at the polls on election day. Party lines were kept straight, and the elections generally turned on the ability of the opposing parties to get their forces to the ballot box. No election frauds or bribery, were practiced in those days, but the interest taken in elections was even greater than at the present time.

John Roberts had two sons, John and George, born in Whitingham; John was a lawyer, lived in Jacksonville and practiced his profession till about 1855, when he went to the state of Illinois, where we suppose he still lives. George

was clerk in the store of Sumner & Bowen & Alfred Bowen, in Jacksonville, a few years. He too, went to the state of Illinois ; enlisted in the army from that state, and it is said he died in the service. None of the descendants of the John Roberts family are now living in Whitingham.

James Roberts, long and well known by most of the people now living in this town, was less a public man than his brother John : but not less a conspicuous figure in the town's history ; having spent a long and active life in the neighborhood where he was born, always a leader in business transactions, a thrifty and scientific farmer, and the acknowleged chief in the locality where he lived. He buried three wives, had a large, intelligent, and active family of children. Three of which, by his first wife, one son and two daughters, are still living ; the son, James M. Roberts, is now living on the original homestead farm, where James Roberts, Sr. first settled ; was an intelligent farmer, not so much of a business man as some of his younger brothers, but is an industrious and worthy citizen. He has spent most of his life in this town, although he went west to the state of Illinois, when a young man, spent ten years there, at farming and herding ; returned to his native town, where he now lives. One of the daughters, Mrs. Goodnow, has spent her whole life here, while the other daughter, Mrs. Bement, now lives in Baldwinsville, Mass.. but has spent the greatest share of her life in Whitingham. Her husband, John W. Bement, was a physician, practiced medicine in Whitingham centre, and in Jacksonville, for many years before he went to Baldwinsville, where he died. By his second wife he had four sons, only one of which now lives in town ; but they were all active, enterprising business men, were raised and schooled here, and are, and have been, too well known in Whitingham, to need comment here. The business career of E. L. Roberts, is as fresh in the memory of the people of this town as any man living. B. F. Roberts, although he lives in Halifax, his business interests are mostly in Whitingham ; and is as well known here, as though he was a citizen of the town. Oscar Roberts, one of the brothers, is a physician, living in Pittsfield, Mass., is one of the most eminent members of the

profession in that place ; while Henry M., the youngest son, remains on the old homestead, and is one of the best farmers in the town of Whitingham. All four of these brothers are possessed of ample means for any business they desire, and with well-directed efforts, can make themselves conspicuous leaders of the first class, in social and business circles, and a blessing to the world around them.

Horace Roberts was a very different man from his two older brothers ; was a lawyer by profession, and as he died nearly half a century ago, his eccentric habits, and general characteristics are not familiar to the present generation. He was a man of marked ability, a violent partisan in politics, unsparing in his denunciations of the whig party, and especially of the leaders, in this town, and throughout this state. He settled and practiced law, in the centre village, about ten years : devoted much of his time and talent to politics, and party training ; and thereby provoked the displeasure of a large proportion of his fellow townsmen, that would otherwise have respected him, as a man of superior ability as a leader in the public affairs of the town. He was kind-hearted and generous to his friends, but his impetuous temperament, was too strong to gain the confidence of the mass of the people. He had his peculiar names for all the principal whigs in town, and seldom called them by any other name. We give a few of them; for instance, Amos Brown was called " Old Cossack ; " Dr. Elliot Brown, he called " Poulot ; " Reuben Winn was named " Banjabee ; " Asa Godfrey, " Ace of Spades ;" Rufus Carley, " Black Hawk ; " and so on with a dozen others, to which he gave names, to correspond with their position and influence.

On one occasion he was conducting a lawsuit in a Justices Court, in which Reuben Winn, Ruel L. Winn, and Samuel Winn, were all witnesses, introduced by his opposing counsel, and after questioning them awhile, without getting anything favorable to his side of the case, he remarked, " I have heard of the four winds of heaven ; but never before came in contact with the three Winns of Hell." He had signed the articles of agreement of the Universalist Society in Whitingham, and become a member of that organization; and in 1835,

when he found that Rufus Carley belonged to the society, he withdrew ; and we find written on the margin of the records, against his name. " I have ordered my name to be struck off, for I will not belong to a society with old Black Hawk."

These few specimens of the eccentricities, and the intense feelings of opposition to his political opponents, will serve to show the general characteristics of the man. But notwithstanding all this, he had many noble traits of character. With all his implacable hostility to his political opponents, and his unwearied pains to defeat their plans, he was scrupulously honest ; a sworn enemy to any resort to deception or fraud, even in his own party, or amongst his own friends ; nothing satisfied him but an open, frank, and honorable warfare with his political opponents. However much he was disliked, he wielded an influence in the town of Whitingham, that ultimately tended to the good of the people. He trained them to act strictly upon principles of honest convictions of right, and fidelity to their pretentions. Was unquestionably a true patriot, and a conspicuous defender of what he thought to be right.

He married a lady from Greenfield, Mass., by the name of Nimms ; they had one son, who was but a small child when his father died, December 16, 1837, aged 51. His widow and family left this town soon after his death, and we know nothing of their history since. Mr. Roberts had the same eccentric habits even in his last sickness. He died of consumption, and some weeks before his death, gave particular directions about his burial, and how he wanted his coffin and box made, so as to prevent, as he said, his ghoulish enemies from stealing and dissecting his body.

Thomas Roberts was an invalid, or had not the full use of his limbs, caused by disease when a small child. He never married ; lived with his brother, James Roberts, on the old homestead farm, where he died June 21, 1866, aged 76.

We do not trace in this sketch, the descendants of this noted family beyond the third generation from their common ancestor ; the descendants of the Roberts families to the present time would take too much space, as they are quite numerous.

CARLEY FAMILY.

The Carley Family is another of the families in Whitingham that occupy a conspicuous place in the town's history, of which we have no genealogical record. But from the records in possession of some of the descendants of that family, we glean the following :

Jonathan Carley, the paternal ancestor of the Carley families in this town, was theson of Joseph Carley, a native of Leicester, Mass. He moved from there to Spencer, Mass., where Jonathan Carley was born, March 16, 1760. This family of Joseph Carley subsequently moved to Hoosack, N. Y., from which place Jonathan Carley (afterwards known in Whitingham as Lieut. Carley), enlisted in the Revolutionary army, at the age of 16 years. He was a member of an Artillery Company, and served faithfully in the army, as his discharge signed by George Washington shows, six years, two months and nineteen days. He was discharged with honors for his faithful service, June 9, 1783.

He was in several of the most severe battles of the Revolution, for instance, at Whiteplains, Germantown, Monmouth, Yorktown and others ; at Yorktown he fixed the fuse to the shells that finally took Cornwallis. At the battle of Monmouth, he stood by his gun, loading and firing till he was completely overcome by heat, or sun stroke, the blood starting from his ears. At the close of the war in 1783, he returned to his father's home, was then between 23 and 24 years old. In 1785 he married Elizabeth Kentfield, and settled in Pownal, in the County of Bennington, where his oldest daughter, Betsey Carley, was born. In the summer of 1788, he moved to Whitingham, where he spent the rest of his life. He had a family of four sons and three daughters, one of which died in infancy. The four sons, Rufus, Jonathan, Jr., Washburn and Joseph, and the two daughters, Betsey and Polly, all lived to a good old age ; and three of the sons and one of the daughters spent their whole lives in

this town. The oldest daughter married Thomas Shumway, and spent most of her life in Readsboro. The other married David Jillson, Jr., a well-known and prominent citizen of Whitingham, and spent her whole life here. Jonathan Carley, Jr., left this town when a young man, and has not lived here since.

Rufus, Washburn and Joseph Carley, long prominent and well-known citizens of their native town, spent their lives in Whitingham. Their father (known as Lieut. Carley) was a man of notoriety in his younger days, was a carpenter, and it is said, built the first framed house in Whitingham; a quiet unassuming man, and a member of the Congregational church. It is said by his descendants that in 1789, he and Capt. John Taylor, a Revolutionary comrade, living in the neighborhood, just over the State line in Rowe, Mass., conceived the idea of having a holiday, and an excursion to Deerfield River. So they, together with a Mr. Peck, James and Jacob Streeter, and one or two others, all young men, with their wives, took a trip to the then notable Deerfield. They called it a "Tea Party." Each took his wife behind him on horseback, with their rations and tea-cups in their saddle-bags, and started on their five mile tramp through an unbroken forest, guided by blazed trees, bent on having a jolly time and seeing the big river.

They reached their destination without difficulty, and after viewing the foaming waters, forced down through the narrow rocky gorge, where the Readsboro bridge was built, they cautiously descended the steep bank, holding on to the underbrush for safety, to a flat rock near the river, and there kindled a fire, boiled their tea, and took their camp fare with an appetite sharpened by their forest ride, and the novelties of the scenes they had witnessed on their way. Chatting awhile, and listening to a few jolly songs by the Messrs. Streeters, and some thrilling incidents of the Revolution by Capt. Taylor and Lieut. Carley, on that table rock, where the surge of the river made it difficult to hear anything else; they repacked their saddle-bags, climbed up the bank by the aid the small trees afforded, mounted their horses and started for home, which in due time they all reached in

safety. This they called "a holiday tea party;" well pleased and amply paid for their ride through the unknown forest, to witness the dashing, foaming waters of the Deerfield River, then much larger than now.

The three brothers that spent their lives in this town, Rufus, Washburn and Joseph, were not men of great notoriety in public affairs of the town, although Rufus was occasionally elected one of the Selectmen, and in the days of the old "Whig party," was once elected Representative, but his health was poor and he did not attend the session of the Legislature at all. They were all good farmers, unassuming, and were respected for their worth, rather than ostentatious display. They were conspicuous and active members of the Universalist society in Whitingham from its first organization; they and their families were liberal in their contributions for its support, not only with their money, but greatly advanced its progress by their gift for singing, and establishing and supporting Sunday-schools for the instruction and benefit of the children and young people.

They all had large families of children, but comparatively few of them lived to an old age, and but a small portion of their descendants now remain in town. Mrs. Peter Holbrook and some of her children, and the widow of Joseph Carley and her daughter, Jane, still live in this town. Cyrus W. Carley, a son of Washburn, spent most of his life in Whitingham, he was a blacksmith by trade, a prominent citizen, a zealous member of the Universalist society in Jacksonville, where he lived and carried on the blacksmithing business for seven or eight years. But he sold out and went to Heath, Mass., about ten years ago, where he still lives. Newman B. Carley, a brother of his, has also spent a large share of his life in this town, but has not been a citizen of Whitingham for several years past, and is now living in Wilmington. It would not be profitable to give a detailed account of the descendants of these Carley families, it is sufficient to say, they are industrious and worthy citizens, devoting their best talents to social and moral culture, are firm believers, and in full sympathy with the religious sentiments of the sect called Universalists.

There are several other quite numerous families, that contributed largely to the productive industry of the town, in the first half of this century, but we can find no reliable family record from which to give a correct history. The family of Dixes, of which there were six brothers, all active, industrious, and worthy citizens, lived in the most prosperous days of the town, but we can find no authentic family record amongst any of their descendants. The family of Reeds, is another that is impossible to give any reliable history of, in detail. There was also a large family of Pikes in Whitingham, in the early part of the century, that we can get no record of. The Wheelers, the Streeters, and Jillsons, were all important and noted families; but they were not men of much public notoriety, hence their names do not often appear in the town records, and none of their descendants that we have been able to reach, can give a correct account of their family history.

PARKER FAMILY.

Capt. Samuel Parker was a prominent and influential man in the early part of the present century. He had three wives, and a large family of children ; four sons and two daughters by his first wife. Their names were Rufus, Wyman, Samuel, Flavel, Sally, and Polly. Rufus was a farmer, a devoted member of the Baptist church, and spent his whole life in Whitingham ; he was not a prominent man in public matters, but a quiet and worthy citizen. Wyman was a man of more public notoriety, but he left town when a young man, went to Worcester, Mass., and has not resided in this town since. Samuel and Flavel both remained in Whitingham, the former during his whole life, and died at his home. Flavel has spent his life in Whitingham, except for the last 10 or 12 years ; he was a farmer, and lived in several different localities ; was quite a noted citizen for many years, but finally left this town and went to Guilford, where he is still living.

Sally married Joseph Goodnow, long and well known in Whitingham, and he was for many years said to be the most scientific farmer in town. His descendants have been conspicuous figures in the town's history ; Henry and Shoreham Goodnow were too well known in Whitingham to need comment. Polly married Daniel Green, of whom mention is made in the sketch of the Green family.

The four daughters by his last wife were Fanny, Betsey, Sophrona, and Sophia ; all spent most of their lives in Whitingham except Sophia, who married Everett Williams, and has not lived in this town much since her marriage.

Fanny married Schuyler Murdock first, and Absalom Pike second ; she has spent her whole life here, and is still living. Betsey married George Bond first, and Reuben Winn second ; she spent her life in Whitingham, except a few of the last years she lived at North Adams, Mass. ; she died there. Sophrona married Linus A. Warren, a native

of Whitingham, and has spent her whole life in this town, except four or five years at Shelburne Falls, Mass. She is now living in the village of Jacksonville, and is among the oldest of its inhabitants.

This family of Parkers, and their descendants now living in this town, form no small share of the business history of the town. We have not been able to obtain a correct account of the births and deaths of this family in detail; but suffice it to say that for the first half of the present century, few, if any, families in Whitingham, acted a more conspicuous part in the formation of its history.

The family of John Fuller, and his descendants, who have been life-long residents of Whitingham, are men of marked ability, have many times been elected to responsible offices of trust in the public affairs of the town, and have contributed their full share to the business progress of the town of Whitingham.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

THE centennial celebration of the town of Whitingham on the 18th day of August, 1880, was an event that will not be forgotten by the present generation. It can but serve to inspire the minds of the people of Whitingham to renewed efforts, to emulate the untiring labors of their progenitors, in founding the institutions of human society upon the broad basis of philanthrophy, and establishing the germs of an exalted civilization. It very naturally carried back the thoughts of the people of to-day, to a time when their parents and grand-parents were compelled to endure hardships and privations that would now be thought impossible.

The Old Church on the hill, once the pride of every section of the town, and the common centre of attraction for the whole people, in the most prosperous days of Whitingham as a town, was chosen as the most appropriate place for this memorable anniversary. Not less than five thousand people had come together, from this, and the neighboring towns and villages, where many of the natives of Whitingham have established their homes, to celebrate the one hundredth year of their native town. The dilapidated condition of the old church, and the surrounding village, is a fair representation of a large proportion of the original business centres, in the back hill towns in this part of the state. The last half century has radically changed the central, and business places of attraction, in this, and many other of the surrounding towns.

The arrangements for the occasion, by the committee chosen at the March meeting of that year, were so complete that the exercises went off without friction or hindrance. We trust its beneficent influence on this, and future genera-

tions, will be wide-spread and enduring—will stimulate the old and young to renewed efforts, to perpetuate the high standard of the town, and exert a broader influence for the good of humanity.

The exercises opened with a salute from the battery, and a song by the Glee Club, written for the occasion by Rev. Hubbard Eastman, entitled,

MY NATIVE TOWN.

[A Hymn written for the Whitingham Centennial by Rev. H. Eastman.]

Tune—"Auld Lang Syne."

My Native Town ! My Native Town !
How justly dear to me !
Although I wander up and down,
I often think of thee ;
Where'er my willing footsteps tend,
Where'er my lot is cast,
Instinctive thoughts and feelings blend
And mingle with the past.

The joyous scenes of early life
My raptured thoughts employed,
When, free from toil and care and strife,
My heart was over-joyed ;
Fantastic forms they now assume ;
Like spectres glide along ;
From memory's magic realm they come,
A countless, mystic throng.

Those happy scenes of youthful days
Like fairies round me rise ;
And happier childhood's artless ways
Spring up before mine eyes ;
I songsters hear in woodlands wild ;
Sweet, blooming fields I see ;
I hear the over-joyous child
Ring out its rapturous glee.

I see the lovely landscape 'round,
I view the verdant hills ;
I love the vales with beauty crowned,
I hear the singing rills ;
I love the richness nature lends
To fields all fruitful, fair.

But more than all I love the friends
Who love to linger there.

But sorrowing scenes come rushing on !
Where now my youthful friends ?
Sad memory answers, they are gone—
How soon life's journey ends !
Where now those kindred, doubly dear,
To whom my heart was bound ?
They here with us no more appear,
They slumber 'neath the ground.

No more with toil and care oppressed,
When I in death lie down,
Let me with friends and kindred rest
In thee, my native town ;
Here 'round my bed let flow'rets bloom,
Set by some loving hand,
And, smiling o'er my quiet tomb,
As sweet memorials stand.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. Gifford, for the reason that Rev H. F. Ballou, then of Wilmington, but a long time resident, and one of the most prominent citizens of Whitingham, did not arrive in season.

A brief and appropriate address of welcome by A. A. Butterfield, Esq., President of the day, was eloquently given in behalf of the people of Whitingham.

Music by the Cornet Band, was next in the order of exercises.

The President then introduced the Hon. Clark Jillson, of Worcester, Mass., a native of Whitingham, as the Orator of the occasion. His address was an elaborate historical research, not only of Whitingham, but of other sections of the Green Mountain State. We give a lengthy extract in another place. Although the orator neglected to mention many incidents that form an important part of the town's history for the last half century, and failed to give correct account of some others, he collected many historical facts, that were unquestionably new to the inhabitants of Whitingham. The most notable of which was the Charter of the town of Whitingham, by the Governor of the province of New York, March 12, 1770. This charter, although the only

one Whitingham ever had, was unquestionably void, for the reason that its principal stipulated conditions were not complied with ; and the original grantees named in the charter, knowing it to be worthless, it remained a dead letter in the Secretary of States office in New York, for more than a century, before this didactic orator conceived the idea of drawing it from its protracted obscurity, and presenting it to the town of Whitingham, as the legitimate charter of the town, and still in full force.

No trace of, or allusion to it, appears on record in the Town Clerk's office, and probably not one of the inhabitants of Whitingham ever heard of such a charter, till the centennial celebration of 1880. And the copy there presented to the town, will remain in the Clerk's office, a dead letter, as worthless to the people of Whitingham, of the present and future generations, as the original from which it was transcribed, was in the Secretary of States office of New York, for the last century.

The orator took great pains to give the place and date of the birth of Brigham Young, the great Mormon leader and Polygamist, which occurred in Whitingham, probably in 1801. We deem it of little consequence in what locality he was born ; it is sufficiently humiliating that Whitingham was his birthplace. The speaker found no time even to allude to the Rev. Nathan Brown, who was one of the most renowned Theologians and Philologists of his time ; was schooled in Whitingham, graduated at Williams College, at the age of 19 ; was sent as a foreign missionary of the Baptist church, to Burmah, India, and Japan, where he spent a long and laborious life, instructing the benighted people of those heathen countries, in the arts of social and Christian civilization. Nor did he think it worth his attention to call to mind the persevering effort, and patriotic enterprise of those early settlers, that laid the foundations of organized society, and established the institutions of civilized life, in this wilderness township. The hardships they endured, and the sacrifices they made for the benefit of posterity—the wisdom and skill they manifested in guiding the interests, and the destinies of those that had come to this, then almost

unbroken forest home, entitle them to the grateful remembrance of their descendants and successors.

The names of Silas Hamilton, Amos and Nathan Green, Jabez Foster, Nathaniel and Ebenezer Davis, James Roberts, Amasa Shumway, James Reed, Calvin Munn, and others, that planted the germ of civilization in this wilderness home, and so nobly braved the perils and overcame the difficulties that surrounded them, should be cherished with profound reverence. Nor can the life and services of the most prominent leaders of a later day ever be forgotten. Such names as Amos Brown, John and Horace Roberts, Elisha Putnam, Ambrose Stone, Asa Godfrey, Samuel Preston, Eli Higley, Obed Foster, Alfred Green, and many others that guided the interest of Whitingham and her institutions, in the first part of the present century, are indelibly stamped upon the memory of the present generation. These are the men that took the front in the most prosperous and progressive days of the town. And yet they were unnoticed in the elaborate address at the centennial celebration of the town, except for some brilliant display of derisive eloquence in portraying their acts as a town, as shown by the records. Here is the classic style in which the orator hits off one of their acts: "The town made an early record in behalf of prohibition that legislators might do well to notice: 'March 7, 1805; voted, that rams shall not run at large after the first day of September until the 20th of November the next, on penalty of being taken up and corded by any person at the expense of the owner.' No warrant was necessary for the execution of this law, and no court was required to pass sentence. Counsel might appear for the defendant if they had any preference for that kind of a client."

The sturdy yeomanry of that time adopted such course of action as they considered their own interest and the public good required; even if it did not come up to the modern standard of urban etiquette. And the progress they made under the surrounding difficulties they had to encounter, demands of the people of this age a grateful respect for their memory, rather than reproach from sarcastic critics. At that time the town was comparatively new, and the people

had not been schooled in the refinements of the present day, but were not lacking in common sense and sound judgment, as to the course most conducive to their own good. But "prohibition," in the sense in which it is now used, had not then been thought of, and the derisive manner in which it was applied to their public acts is an injustice to their memory.

The address of nearly two hours' duration was listened to with the closest attention, and contained much valuable information, and many things pertaining to the history of Whitingham, and other sections of the state, that were new to the people of the present age.

After the address, the Hon. Fred P. Brown, of North Adams, Mass., a native of Whitingham, read an historical poem adapted to the occasion, which closed the forenoon exercises. We give the poem to our readers entire; and but for its extreme length, we would gladly give the address.

MR. BROWN'S POEM.

Muse of the Northern clime,
 Under the Heavens' blue dome,
'Neath Haystack's mountain shrine,
Teach me thy hymn sublime,
 Freedom and Home.

'Tis not the State a century old
 Strong nursed by mountains drear,
That spreads to-day her starry fold,
From land of Stark to Champlain cold,
 To crown her hundredth year.

For Bennington hath mourned her dead
 Round sad Walloamsac's shore,
And taught how from the furnace red
God forged a State, and men were bred,
 In mighty days of yore.

'Tis not the nation's broad domain,
 Blazoned from sea to sea,
With battle flag and oriflamme,

And thundering pæan to proclaim
A century's jubilee.

For Lexington and Cowpens green,
Round "Independence Hall,"
By all the nations have been seen
Who met to crown Columbia queen,
At her centennial.

The thundering river lifts its foam,
Born of the mountain rill,
So Empire's mighty currents come
From out the township and the home,
Birthplace of freedom still.

Not State or nation's grand renown,
Long rung on nobler lyres,
I sing the modest country town,
New England's birth-right and her crown,
Around her old camp-fires.

Oh rock-crowned hills! Oh native town!
Home of my boyhood's happiest years.
No royal verse or jewelled crown,
I yield thee with my loyal tears.

A simple wreath of untrained flowers,
Plucked from the Deerfield's brake-fringed line,
I bring to thy Centennial bowers,
And lay my heart upon the shrine.

For as I climb these sun-kissed hills,
And drink their breezes as of yore,
My heart, my very being thrills,
To greet old Whitingham once more.

Not like some borough grand and old
Laden with relics of old wars,
Whose tasselated turrets hold
Her royal diadem and stars;—

But modestly, upon her throne,
She sits a century clad to-day,
While children's great-grand-children come,
And at her feet their offerings lay.

For us a bounteous board is spread,
Her heart and hand she opens wide,
Welcomes her living. and her dead
Remembers with a queenly pride.

And as familiar hands are clasped,
 And heart greets heart with warm embrace,
I catch from out the shadowy past
 A vision of that elder race ;

Great hearted men with arm of brawn,
 And matrons bold, who dangers trod
Amid these wilds, to found a home
 And altar rear, in fear of God.

Daughters and sons of Pilgrim sires,
 What sought ye on these storm-swept hills ;
Where Whiting built his first camp-fires,
 And Coleman first his land did till ?

Before great Allen's fame, or Stark,
 Before was heard the stage coach horn,
In days colonial, forest's dark,
 When stout King George sat on the throne.

Ere yet the Indian wars did heal,
 And women clasped their babes in prayer,
When men met deadly foeman's steel,
 Or braved the kindlier panther's lair.

What hither led those patriarchs old ?
 Go ask the God of faith and prayer,
Go ask of Him who freemen bold,
 Rewardeth aye, for toil and care.

But soon through clefts of forests wild,
 Struggled in streaks the noonday sun,
Huge winrows of great trees were piled
 By woodman's axe first trophies won.

Then lit the heavens with sheets of flame,
 The deer and startled lynx did flee,
With torch in hand the settlers came,
 To celebrate the clearing bee.

And so they toiled till smoke arose,
 From many a peaceful cabin's dome,
The " wilderness blossomed as the rose,"
 God blessed the early settler's home.

What were their names ? Th' historians told,
Not carved on bronze, or leaf of gold.
Yet as Sadawga's waters clear,
Reflect that old chief standing here,
So, in the living heart and brain,

Each sleeping grandsire dwells again.
We glean a few, their firesides warm,
Old Nathan Whiting's well-cleared farm,
And Captain Parker, famed in war,
Shumway and Pike, and many more.
'Twas not that Pike, I here would state,
Sire of the goodly "twenty-eight,"
Nor Romulus, nor Remus born,
Nurtured on wolf's milk stout and strong
To hang on mythologic tree,
From goddesses our pedigree,
And build a township in a day
On seven hills. Seventy have we,
But plain surnames in Saxon bright,
Green, Chase, Dix, Smedley and McKnight,
Jillson and Streeter came to stay,
The Colemans, Joe and Joshua,
And very soon the Hosleys, Browns,
Blanchard and Preston brought renown,
Slowly but sure the settlers came
To swell the fame of Whitingham.

And now the farmer's barns were filled,
From bursting sheaves and fields well tilled,
The husking and the apple bee,
Gladdened the infant colony.

The waters turned the miller's wheel,
The farmers' oxen grazed the hill,
The speckled trout adorned his board,
His children grew, like Jonah's gourd.
One thing was lacking. Yet there stood
No temple built to worship God.

Men ransacked then the mighty woods,
For timbers strong, plate, beam and studs,
And rafters tough as iron wrought,
And carpenters their chisels brought,
Mitre and broad axe, and with a will
The cunning craftsmen plied their skill,

Till nave and transept, dome and sill,
Gallery and pulpit ready lay,
Waiting the mighty "raising day."
Then all the country gathered round;
Each tenon huge, its mortice found,
And strong as Ajax, men upbore

Whole broadsides, twenty tons or more;
By mammoth spike-poles held upright,
Till beam and brace were fitted tight,
And rafters o'er the plates tied strong,
The structure storm and wind defied ;
And thus was planted on this rock
The church that's braved the tempest's shock,
That's stood the test of all these years,
And still her battered front uprears,
A ruined fortress, grandly given,
To battle all the winds of heaven !

Thou dear old church ! for eighty years,
Thou'st crowned this wintry hill ;
Lone relic of ancestral seers,
Thou art well-nigh the century's peer,
Planted to do God's will.

Where is the gray-haired parson now,
The grand old fashioned chair ?
The deacon where, who slumbered through
Whole miles of sermon, in his pew,
And where the country squire ?

Gone, gone to heaven we trust, all gone.
Thy pulpit, grand and great,
Has fallen 'neath the pelting storm,
And fierce debates, March meetings warm,
Have robbed thee of thy saintly form,
And mixed the church and state.
Of mighty deeds, yet thou must tell,
When men did toil and delve,
When England's second war befell,
When Roberts, Carley, Hall and Green,
Brave Captain Preston and his men,
Carson and Pike and all the rest,
Marched forth, of Whitingham the best,
In days of 1812.

And then was built in later years,
That belfry with its four straight spires,
And in the belfry hung that bell,
That's tolled so many a funeral knell,
That's merrily rung for many a bride,
When priestly hands the nuptials tied,
Whose sweet soft tones on Sabbath air,
Rose like the incense of pure prayer,

Summoning the country miles away,
To worship God upon his day.

That grand old bell! How clear it pealed,
When bright June trainings held the field,
When mustered on this airy plain,
The State militia here did train!

When Independence Day came round,
How grand and joyful was its sound,
That's sung the dead year's requiem,
That's rung the New Year's glory in,
Remember ye, when war was done,
How grand, how mightily it rung,
As sounding forth in strains sublime,
One flag, one country, for all time!
That sweet old bell, that now 'tis gone,
By vandal hands from belfry torn,
Its loss like some dead friend we mourn;
The sceptre passed from off this hill,
When that old bell grew mute and still.

What hath she done in all these years,
Old Whitingham, 'mid smiles and tears?
Buried reverently her dead,
Storm and cyclone too, hath bred,
Builded villages on either side,
Rivals each, yet each her pride;
Built strong sawmills and good roads,
Paid her taxes, sold her goods;
She hath kept her district schools
Where her daughters gently ruled;
Made maple sugar, ton on ton;
While her matrons carded, spun,
Raised her Goodnows and her Starrs,
Merchants and bankers, (bulls and bears),
Reared the mayor of a city,
And Brigham Young. Lord, what a pity!
Pity! not for our good mayor,
But for that Mormon old soothsayer;
Raised her quota in both wars,
She can show good battle scars;
She hath mighty wrestlers bred
Stout John Andros at the head,
Ira Bemis, what a host!
In every fight came uppermost;
Tim Brown, Hull, and black Jo Eames,

For any " raising," oh, what teams !
Search the century through and through,
What did Whitingham *not do ?*

What hath she reared in all these years ?
Stout-necked oxen, mammoth steers,
You ought to see, nay, you have seen,
Her hundred yoke, all in one team !
Hitched to a mighty wagon, freighted
Like Noah's Ark, not so well mated,
The men went afoot, the women rode,
And village belles, O, what a load !
With laughter clear as mountain brook,
Their handicraft along they took,
Quilts, socks, embroidered furbelow,
To insure a premium, or a beau ;
With mammoth squashes, succulent beet,
For flags, the tasseled corn and wheat;
For music, songs of children grand,
All headed by the new brass band.
Not Cæsar's chariot bore such load
As this, up the hilly and straight old road,
Bearing the hosts of Jacksonville
To the old fair grounds on this hill.

In all these hundred years she's raised
No subject for the halter !
And better still, the Lord be praised,
No town or bank defaulter !

In politics she hath two creeds,
And every man's a member,
Their votes both Generals will need,
To make sure of November.

On one sound plank she's well agreed,
Nor waters milk and honey,
For digging rocks has made her dead
Against all flat money.

She's built so many good stone walls
Her very fingers tingle,
No music sweeter in her halls
Than an honest dollar's jingle.

Religion lives by faith and deeds,
She hath no little leaven,
Five churches meet her Sunday needs,
Their spires all point to Heaven.

I said one Brigham Young she'd raised,
But soon she set him flying,
Too many wives would set us crazed,
One at a time is better.

Much good to Whitingham is given,
The bad she's fast out-growing,
She hath to-day four winds of heaven,
But *one* to Congress going !

Of lawyers she hath raised a host,
Than Blackstone they are subtler,
They never settle without their costs,
From Hix to John E. Butler.

For doctors she could always beat
Old Esculapius certain,
For bleedings small and stories great,
Go ask good Doctor Martin.

And round the globe, a scholar wise,
Three times o'er ocean cables,—
He'd like to navigate the skies—
Hath sailed our "Brother Peebles."

For ministers, Ballou and Lamb,
Long held their even paces,
To sinners keep from Whitingham ;
Whoe'er shall fill their places ?

Dear Father Lamb, that saintly form,
Rests 'neath the summer daisies,
Beyond the life-long strife and storm,
Thy spirit sings God's praises !

And one to-day in distant lands,
God's mandate only fearing,
Grown old and gray, o'er burning sands,
The cross of Christ up-rearing.

Carrying to climes long veiled in night,
By idol-worship sated,
The Gospel of God's holy light,
By his own hand translated.

Lifting the halt, the poor, the blind,
In Burmah long benighted,
The graves of children left behind
Till earth's great wrongs are righted.

And dusky forms shall weave thy crown
When life's strong staff is broken,
And long the name of Nathan Brown
In tears by them is spoken!

'Twas rugged Attica nurtured Greece,
Olympus ruled the Gods,
And rock-built Corsica, wintry Thrace,
Brought mighty warriors to the race,
The hills were their abode.

And all the sunnier lands and climes,
Kneel 'round their Shakespeare's tomb,
Revere the land of Milton blind,
Nor leave unwept the bards sublime
By cliffs of Bannockburn.

Blush not, O modest country town!
Thy wintry sky and soil;
Nor thine the poet's deathless crown,
Nor thine the warrior's grand renown,
But men of faith and toil.

What though old Haystack's cap is white,
Sadawga chained in ice,
Beneath the shimmering northern light,
Old Whitingham, thy hearth is bright,
'Tis Freedom's Paradise!

Ho! ho! the blinding storm is white,
The bleak winds twist the hills,
The shivering stars are hid in fright,
Old Whitingham, 'tis New Year's night,
Thine Arctic breath is chill.

Yet merrily ring the New Year's bells,
Old Winter, thee we dare!
Of mirth and dance their music tells,
The New Year's hundredth welcome swells,
Out on the frosty air.

The spring doth blush with violets green,
The summer's rich with clover,
We love the Autumn's golden sheen,
But Winter reigns a king supreme,
When snow storm drifts us over.

What games of ball, what skatings grand,
What singing-schools at night!
We boys were monarchs of the land,

When winter stretched her icy hand
Above these hilltops white.

Type of New England, grand but fair,
Dear town with bracing skies !
She envieth not the tropic's glare,
Where orange blossoms scent the air,
But man's best birthright dies.

'Neath Ursa Major's nightly tread
Dwelleth a hardier race ;
Toil maketh sweet their daily bread,
The stars of God watch overhead,
His soil their resting place.

I love thy grand September skies,
Reflecting harvests golden,
But Whitingham we'll not despise
Though wrapt in wintry canopies,
She sits by firesides olden.

Cease idle rhymes, the century chimes
Ring on by God's appointing ;
And cycles more on time's bleached shore,
Our aid will not be wanting.

Yet dear old town, come sit thee down,
Fill out thy " honor roll,"
Stay not thy tears, these later years,
May rank with those of old !

I hear afar the tramp of war
Approach these mountains grand,
The skies are red, our patriot dead
Their loyal sons command.

Oh ! bugle thrills that shake these hills,
Oh ! mother's parting cry:
" God bless the boy, yet if He wills,
Thou, not the flag, must die."

Say Edwards, Eames, from Antietam,
Holbrooks from Libby's pen,
Did boy or man from Whitingham
Disown his colors then ?

From Cedar's Creek brave Blanchard speaks
Davis from Frederick's grave,
Nay to yon skies, we lift our eyes,
Ye died our flag to save !

Come Morley brave from prison grave,
 Ride with your cavalry band,
Come Gillett urged on Gettysburg,
 What cheer for Whitingham ?

Come prison gloom, come tropic noon,
 The fever's thirst and rack,
Come death serene, O mountains green,
 What son did courage lack ?

Come Winn and Brown, Port Hudson's down,
 Recount your country's gain,
An hundred marched from this old town
 And twenty-four were slain :

Ah, one in four ! Some towns did more,
 But more did less, I ween.
God mixed the cup, she drank it up ;
 Soft waves the cypress green !

And she knows well the dead who fell,
 Her country's honor saving,
The living too, brave boys in blue,
 They'll keep the old flag waving.

Weep, mothers, weep ! Though years do creep,
 Moss-crowned o'er graves so tender,
Freedom's sweet angel guards their sleep,
 And flowers their tribute render.

O country saved by blood so brave,
 Remember thy true-hearted.
Yet stay, I linger by one grave,
 The tear afresh has started.

O muse ! forgive this private grief,
 This was my schoolmate loyal ;
In tests of strength so easily chief,
 In sacrifice so royal.

For years behind the same old desk
 We sat in wintry weather,
And late, on learning's higher task
 We started forth, together.

A truer friend, God ne'er did send
 To me, nor rival braver,
Come strife or harm,—his knightly arm
 Was first the weak to favor.

Dear Damon, from thy Pythias flown
So infinitely before me,
Thou'st won the goal—the martyr's crown,
While I so late deplore thee !

Farewell, farewell, Centennial town :
Forgive my wandering numbers,
Long may thy kindly stars look down
And guard thy peaceful slumbers !

Know that God wills, on these strong hills
The right from wrong discerning
Each coming year you'll trim more clear
The torch of freedom burning.

Oh ! grand old town, though skies do frown,
Thy heart keep soft and tender,
Rear high the tree of charity
Its branches sit ye under.

And may thy rounded hundred years
Be, but the threshold's passing,
To lead thee on in grander spheres
Each century, each surpassing !

And ye young men, whose brighter ken
The distant vista's sweeping,
Leave not alone what sires have sown
But stay—the harvest reaping.

Leave not these vales and hillsides bare
The graves of sires resigning,
For glittering mines or city's glare ;
God's best sun here is shining.

But if from distant clime or state,
Thou hear'st a mightier voice,
Buckle thine arms, her blessing take,
Go forth as from God's choice.

Country and faith have need of thee
Where'er the Master wills,
But heaven's strong air of liberty
Sweeps grandest o'er these hills.

Keep pure and strong the fountain head
Under the stars of gold,
Dead towns will make the country dead,
Sweet liberty grow cold !

Good bye, dear town, the skies look down,

We take thy hand at parting ;
Our sainted dead high overhead
May note each tear that's starting.

When next thy century's song is sung,
Time's ocean sweeping o'er us,
From Heaven's bright light-house, ever young,
We hope to join the chorus.

AFTERNOON EXERCISES.

After an hour's intermission for dinner, the people were re-seated and the exercises resumed with music by the band and a song by the Glee Club.

Next in order were short speeches and responses to sentiments for the occasion ; Vice President, H. W. Brigham, acting as toast-master.

The first sentiment offered was, *Whitingham—her agricultural and mechanical industries!* And briefly responded to by Leonard Brown, Esq., who said the agricultural and mechanical industries have, and forever must, form the basis of prosperity for Whitingham ; and the progress of the people in the future, as in the past, can best be secured by giving the farmer and mechanic the dignified position in the social scale, to which they are entitled. Insisting that their occupation was in no sense inferior to the learned professions, and the laborer that felt himself degraded by his occupation was disgracing his manhood. And if the producing masses would assume their true position, they would secure legislation for the benefit of the people, and let money follow in the rear. He urged the laboring men and women to spare no pains to improve their fields and their homes, and above all to cultivate the higher faculties of their nature, and make these rural homes the temples of virtue and religion, the altars of patriotism, the mansions of the true sovereign, and the centre of social worth.

The venerable H. F. Ballou, of Wilmington, was next called upon, but excused himself from extended remarks. Rev. R. M. Byram, of Jacksonville, followed with a few

pertinent remarks well fitted to the occasion.

The next regular sentiment—read by toast-master Brigham : "The grand old town of Whitingham ; the embodiment of the souls of her progenitors, and the mother of representative men and women." Response by M. B. Bishop, of Whitingham.

He said, the day was not so much for celebrating the one-hundredth anniversary, as to pay a tribute of reverence to the old town, and the fathers and mothers that founded its institutions. This old church, and the Academy across the way, had wielded their influence, and representative men and women had here received an impulse they could not forget. And to-day they come back to share the honors of this centennial as their birth-right. Amongst them were Professors, Judges, Representatives and Senators, Ministers of the Gospel, Mayors, Lawyers, Doctors, and the wives and mothers of men who have already attained an eminence that would do honor to any town or state. Referring to our common schools of the present day, he said they were lamentably deficient in comparison to their former standard, and if the people continued indifferent to their importance, would eventually be run into the ground. Closing with an eloquent eulogy for the loyalty of Whitingham during the war of the rebellion, he urged the people to cherish those free institutions that cost the sacrifice of so many of our brave soldiers to preserve.

Doctor Reuben Green, of Boston, responded to the next sentiment, "Our Native Town."

He commenced by saying that Whitingham was the dearest spot on earth to him. It was a good place to be born in, and to be well born, is an important element in our existence. Physical and moral imperfections are often inherited. But the people of Whitingham were free from inherited imperfections ; they were well born. Murderers and defaulters were not found amongst her sons. Her Christian fathers and mothers trained their sons and daughters in the school of honest industry. The town was so far away from the great cities, the centres of confusion and evil influences, its climate exceptionally serene and healthy, its products the

choicest, there could be no good reason why her children should not be well born, well fed, and well bred. They are now filling places of honor and trust in all the surrounding country, acting a conspicuous and noble part in all the great enterprises for the progress and elevation of humanity, that marks the present age. In closing, he happily alluded to the scenes of his childhood, when this old church was the pride of the town—the common centre of attraction for all the people; when its old square pews and extended galleries were well filled with devout Christian worshipers on each consecutive Sabbath; when the people of Whitingham were bound in one unbroken fraternity, and urged the present generation not to forget the precepts and examples of their pious fathers and mothers.

Vice President Brigham here read letters from Gov. Proctor, Senator Geo. F. Edmunds, Chas. H. Joyce, M. C., S. O. Lamb, of Greenfield, Mass., Hon. Judge Tyler, of Brattleboro, and Gen. A. B. Sprague, of Worcester, Mass.

Dea. Linus A. Warren, of Jacksonville, next took the stand, and gave an interesting discourse from the text, "My Grandmother."

The speaker said she had earned some money by spinning and weaving, and finally concluded to invest in wild lands; selecting the eastern slope of the Green Mountain, near the western border of Whitingham. Leaving it in the possession of bears and other wild beasts (visiting it once, however, on snow shoes), till her oldest son, James Warren, so long and well known in Whitingham, a prominent and leading member of the Baptist church, became 19 years old. She then decided to send him on there to make a settlement, with a view of establishing a home. In obedience to her mandate, he there cut timber and built a log cabin. Then the mother came to live with him and made it a home. Catamounts and bears were plenty in that region, and the latter would often come in the night and sniff around the quilts they had efficiently secured across the opening left for a door in the cabin, but went away without disturbing the inmates. This son finally brought there a wife, and in due course of time the speaker was born, on which occa-

sion, April 14, the snow was said to be five feet deep. The Deacon then related some of the perils and hardships the early settlers in this wilderness town were compelled to endure.

Hon. E. T. Butterfield, of Wilmington, being called, said he had been familiar with Whitingham and her people for half a century, and he believed the number of inhabitants might, and should, be doubled in the next fifty years. And entreated the young men to stay at home and cultivate the soil, fully believing it would prove a source of wealth and happiness to them, beyond any other occupation. Farming in this part of the country was the source of all wealth, and young men would find it both honorable and profitable to study it more carefully.

The toast to "New England" was next read, and Judge H. B. Ballou called upon to respond, but instead of making a speech, he sung the song, "Hurrah for New England," the whole assembly joining in the chorus.

The next sentiment, "The Lessons of the Hour," brought Hon. A. W. Preston of North Adams, to the stand, who was introduced by the President as the "Lion of the Berkshire Bar." He believed this centennial should be the beginning of a new era, when private grief should be assuaged and new friendships formed. He rejoiced in the opportunity to return to the town of his birth and pay tribute to the frugality, integrity, and piety of her people. He held the great audience in the most perfect attention, for fifteen or twenty minutes, giving the young people some very sound reasons for staying on these hills, and setting their aims high, reminding them that their best interests, and their brightest prospects lie in the production of the soil of these hills and valleys; and if they needed help to till their farms, and conduct their households, the best way was to raise it. He urged the young ladies to turn their attention to household duties, and become familiar with domestic endearments, and leave off their trailed dresses. Reminding them of the wisdom of giving their affections to the honest mechanic in preference to the fashionable snob; or to the sunbrowned farmer, to the white-faced rowdy. He logically denounced the delusions, and artful deceptions of the present day, and most eloquently and earnestly

exhorted the young people to follow the precepts and godly examples of their parents and grand-parents.

Short speeches were then made by Isaac N. Davis, of Milford, Mass. Dr. Waters Gillett, Deacon Phineas Field, of Charlemont, Mass., C. N. Davenport of Brattleboro, Vt. and others.

But as the sun was lowering towards the lofty peaks of the western mountain, it became evident that a little more spice was needed, to retain the attention of the people at that late hour, when toast-master Brigham read the following;

> The boys of Whitingham some think are right green,
> Though they ripen in time, as has often been seen;
> And when they arrive at six feet three or four,
> And at once with each end, touch the ceiling and floor,
> Most men admit, with the tongue and the pen,
> The boys of Whitingham can grow to be men.

This was responded to by Major Henry Winn, (a son of Reuben Winn, Esq., so long one of the leading lights of the town, and a native of this village, but now a resident of Shelburne Falls, Mass.,) in a manner that at once aroused the weary spirits of his hearers; and before five minutes had passed, they forgot they were tired, and gave the closest attention to his electrifying illustrations of the many amusing incidents he had witnessed on the old hill, in his childhood days. Carrying back the thoughts of his hearers, to a time when New Rum was freely used by all classes, and considered an indispensable requisite through the season of haying and harvesting. He related many amusing incidents and anecdotes of its effects on different individuals, and incidentally referred, more for the amusement of his hearers, than the hope of any substantial benefit, to the ingenious manner in which the Minister, who had an interest in a store, notified the people they had just received an invoice of New England of a superior quality.

The President then announced the exercises closed, and the great audience dispersed, fully satisfied the day had been profitably spent, and with grateful thanks to the officers and speakers, for their judicious and instructive lessons, and the order in which the exercises were conducted.

PROFESSIONAL MEN.

A BRIEF sketch of the professional men that have lived in Whitingham, for any great length of time, may not be altogether out of place. Of the Medical profession, Dr. Stephen Tainter was probably the first settled physician. He practiced medicine in this town some 8 or 10 years before the commencement of the present century. It is said, however, that he had been preceded by a Dr. Grant that practiced here a few years, but we find no reliable account of him. Dr. Tainter practiced his profession here with satisfactory results till 1802 or 1803. He then sold out and went to Gainesville, N. Y. His biography shows him to be a man of superior ability, a skillful practitioner, a scholar, and a poet. His wife died in Whitingham, Oct. 3, 1801. He was an uncle of Josiah W. Tainter, so long and well known in the town of Whitingham as one of the leading members of the Baptist church.

There was a Dr. Bugbee that practiced in this town a while after Tainter left; but the next regular settled physician for any considerable time, was Dr. Abel B. Wilder, who settled here as a practitioner of medicine and surgery, in the first decade of the present century, and was for a long time the only physician in town; he was universally respected as a citizen, devoted his attention exclusively to his professional duties, possessed superior professional skill, and took a deep interest in the sanitary condition of the people.

Dr. Wilder was succeeded by Dr. Nathaniel Smith, a native of the town of Halifax, in 1821. He was then a young man, and devoted his whole attention to his chosen profession; was a man of superior talents, sound judgment, and thoroughly understood his profession; quiet and unassum-

ing, an independent thinker, and retained the full confidence of the people of all classes. He was unquestionably, all things considered, the most prominent and able physician that has lived in Whitingham since the beginning of the present century.

Dr. Horace Smith, a student of Dr. Nathaniel, was the next regular physician in the centre village at Whitingham. He practiced there till December, 1835, when he sold out to Griswold & Thompson, and they practiced there till John W. Bement came in 1839. Dr. Bement practiced there several years, then went to Jacksonville, and practiced his profession there for a long time. He finally left there and went to Baldwinsville, Mass., where he died.

Dr. E. A. Dean succeeded him in Jacksonville. He came there in 1853, and practiced medicine and surgery, with satisfactory success, till 1861. Dr. E. H. Harvey was associated with Dr. Dean in practice, a few months before Dean left town. Dr. Fred Temple, a native of Heath, Mass., then practiced in Jacksonville two or three years; and his brother, Dr. Cyrus Temple, so well known in Whitingham, came to this town from Heath, and settled in the village of Sadawga, bought the store previously occupied by Chase & Green, and traded there a few years; he made that his principal business, instead of the practice of his profession. He finally quit trading, remodeled his store, and built a large addition for a hotel and boarding-house, now the "Springs Hotel." And for the last few years of his life made the practice of medicine and surgery his business. He was a man of good talents, ambitious and enterprising, and was a leading spirit in that village while he was there; he was one of the selectmen of the town in 1870.

A Dr. Barnard practiced in Jacksonville a short time, before Dr. F. B. Johnson come there in 1870; who has practiced there from that time to the present. Dr. F. D. Stafford has been the physician at Sadawga (now Whitingham), since the death of Dr. Temple. Dr. Stafford and Dr. Johnson are too well known to the people of Whitingham to need remark. Of Dr. David D. Wilcox, who died in Jacksonville, sufficient is said in another place.

Of the Legal profession, John and Horace Roberts, both native born citizens of Whitingham, were amongst the first that made the practice of law a business. John Roberts lived in the northeast part of the town, on the place later known as the Ellis W. Gates place; he was a farmer, assistant Judge of the County Court for a long time, and also practiced law occasionally. Horace Roberts went to the centre village about 1825, practiced law there for nearly ten years, when his health failed, and he took John E. Butler into his office; who succeeded him in practice. Henry Closson lived in the centre village and practiced law some 8 or 10 years while Roberts was there; they were sworn political enemies, and had many sharp contests. Closson finally left town and went to Springfield, Vt., before Roberts died, in 1837.

John E. Butler practiced till 1843, when he was succeeded by his brother, Nathan L. Butler, who practiced there till 1854. He was succeeded by H. N. Hix and A. W. Preston, who practiced in company one year, in the name of "Hix & Preston," when they dissolved partnership, and each practiced for himself till 1858; then Preston left town, went to North Adams, Mass., where he still lives and practices his profession. William H. Follett practiced law a few years in Whitingham, before Preston left. He finally went to Halifax, where he died. H. N. Hix left the centre village in 1869, went to Sadawga village, where he has practiced his profession to the present time.

Hosea W. Brigham practiced law in the village of Sadawga a few years in company with H. N. Hix, and afterwards alone, till he left town in 1881. Charles S. Chase has also been in that business there since 1880.

John Roberts, Jr., practiced in Jacksonville from 1847 to 1855, when he went west. W. S. Myers was there a year or more about 1860 or 1861. A. A. Butterfield came to Jacksonville in 1873, and has practiced his profession there to the present time.

Of the Clerical profession, Rev. Linus Austin, Ebenezer Davis, Hosea F. Ballou, and Amherst Lamb, are the principal Clergymen that have lived in Whitingham for any great

length of time ; and enough is said about them in the church history. There have been some others residents in Whitingham for a number of years. Rev. Hubbard Eastman, Calvin Buckland, and Peter S. Gates, have lived and preached in Whitingham for ten years or more ; besides the circuit preachers mentioned in another place.

SADAWGA VILLAGE.

IN the early part of this century, this place was the residence of some of the principal inhabitants of the town. Elisha Putnam, Eli Higley, Phineas H. Sawyer, Nehemiah Sabin, and some others that were leading men in the first and second decades of this century, lived in that vicinity. Phineas H. Sawyer built and run a grist and saw-mill there. Eli Higley run a carding machine and cloth-dressing mill there a while, afterwards known as the "Solomon Whitney place." A tannery was owned and run there by Gates & Morse, for several years; and afterwards by Ledyard Haley on a larger scale, that contributed largely to the business interests of that place, and to the town of Whitingham.

The mineral spring in that village was discovered in 1822, analyzed by Dr. Wilson, and found to contain muriate of lime, carbonate of lime, muriate of magnesia, and per-oxide of iron. It has been found to be a specific for cutaneous eruptions, scrofulous humors, dropsy, gravel, chronic ulcers, liver complaint, and other diseases. David Eames, one of the most enterprising men that ever lived in Whitingham, claimed to have been cured of an aggravated case of gravel and liver complaint, of long standing, by the use of its waters. He took great pains to extol and advertise its medicinal qualities, although not living in the immediate vicinity, he was none the less zealous in proclaiming its wonderful effect in curing the diseases from which he had long suffered. He left this town in his old age, went to Searsburg, and built the big house on the old turnpike road, formerly known as the "Half-way house." He died September 13, 1843, aged 79.

The village was not a place of mnch business attraction, till about 1860, when Zach Wheeler built the store, after-

wards occupied by George W. Chase and Eli T. Green, who traded under the firm name of "Chase & Green," and a post-office was established there. But after that, it gained very rapidly in business importance for the next ten years, and bid fair to become the principal business center for the whole town. But for the last ten or fifteen years it has not gained in business importance so much as the village of Jacksonville, although the town business, so far as town and freeman's meetings are concerned, has been equally divided between that village and Jacksonville, since 1875.

Of the early settlers in this place, Phineas H. Sawyer and Solomon Whitney, long time residents, and their sons, Houghton Sawyer and Lyman H. Whitney, did as much, or more, to make this a place of business attraction, than any other men. They were all active, industrious, enterprising business men, of superior abilities. In 1838, Houghton Sawyer built the grist-mill owned by Zach. Wheeler; and Lyman H. Whitney kept a store in that village a few years, besides running a carding and cloth-dressing mill, before he left town.

H. N. Hix built the hotel called the "Sadawga House," and the store where H. C. Millington trades, in 1869, and the post-office has been kept there since 1872. The mills and manufacturing industries of that village, are now in a prosperous condition. The saw-mills of J. W. Sawyer and O. B. Wheeler, together with their box, and other manufacturing business, contribute no small share to the business interests of Whitingham at the present time. These together with Alby's chair-shop and Baker's wool-carding and general job-shop, the grist-mill of Zach. Wheeler, the carriage and blacksmith shops, and the saw-mill of A. J. Hull, a little below, make an extensive business interest.

Besides this, the mineral spring and boating on Sadawga Pond, make this place a favorite summer resort, for pleasure and recreation to the pleasure seeking people of the surrounding country. The Baptist church being located here, makes it still more a center of attraction, and the Universalist church is by no means without worshipers, if it has no regular pastor.

SECRET ORGANIZATIONS.

ALTHOUGH we have never had any particular sympathy with secret societies of any kind, nor have we been able to discover wherein a public benefit could be derived from them, the common interest of the people require that a brief account be given of those that have been organized in the town of Whitingham. It is often important for the people of any community, or of any profession or occupation, to associate themselves together, that they may harmonize their course of action, to promote their own interest and the public good. But why they should close their doors against their fellow citizens, and the public generally, is a matter of questionable expediency. But we do not propose to discuss that matter here, but simply to give such facts as we have been able to gather, in relation to these organizations in Whitingham.

There was an organization of a society effected on the 3d day of May, 1867, called the "Independent Order of Good Templars," at Jacksonville, with its headquarters at what was called "Mechanics Hall," with a fair prospect of becoming a valuable, and permanent institution. The ostensible object of this organization, was to promote the cause of temperance, and to elevate and refine the moral and social condition of its members. And for a while it showed signs of progress, and a reasonable presumption that the objects of its formation, would, to a large extent, be realized. But after two or three years, it failed to attract the attention of its members and became less and less attractive, to many of them, till before the close of the fifth year of its existence it was abandoned altogether.

Another organization called the "Patrons of Husbandry," was perfected on the 16th day of January, 1875. This was a

secret organization started for the benefit of farmers, and others who were dependent upon their own labor for their support. This for a few years drew a large share of the laboring people, and had reasonable prospects of becoming a permanent and profitable institution for its members, being designed as far as possible to dispense with the profits of what are called "middle men," in the trade with the working people, in the necessaries of every day life. But from some cause that we know not of, the interest at first taken in this commendable enterprise, for the good of the laboring class, began to fail, their meetings were less frequent and less interesting, till they were finally abandoned in 1882 altogether, and have not since been renewed.

FREEMASONS.

The institution of Freemasonry is unquestionably the oldest of secret organizations. Whether its workings does, or ever did, tend to promote the social and material progress of civilization, or the welfare of human society, there is, and always has been, a diversity of opinion. But from the earliest stages of the world's history, many of the eminent men in every age, have been members of the masonic fraternity. However much controversy there may be about its effects upon the mass of mankind, it is an institution that has survived the adverse criticisms of centuries.

The town of Whitingham has never had any organized lodge of masons within its limits, till 1869. On the 10th day of June of that year, Unity Lodge, No. 89, was chartered by the Grand Lodge. It was established at Jacksonville, and commenced a prosperous career, with eighteen charter members. We have no means of knowing, nor are we permitted to know, the workings of this lodge, but from the best information obtainable, nearly one hundred men have been members of the lodge. But death, removals, and the exclusion of unworthy members, have greatly diminished its numbers; till by the last reports available, we learn there were fifty-four

members. They have a good Hall in the village of Jacksonville, devoted exclusively to the use of that fraternity.

KNIGHTS OF HONOR.

The organization known as "Knights of Honor," is a secret society, composed of one Supreme Lodge, and of Grand and Subordinate lodges. It was first established in 1873. One of the purposes of the order, is the providing for the payment of a death benefit, to the surviving families of its members, or to whom the member may direct. Its extensive growth since its organization, shows it to be one that meets with popular favor. The objects of the order, briefly stated, are said to be ; to unite fraternally, acceptable white men of every profession, or business occupation. To give moral and material aid to members of the order, by instructive and scientific lectures, encouraging each other in business, and obtaining employment. To promote benevolence and charity, establish a Widow and Orphan Benefit Fund, from which to pay a sum not exceeding $2,000, at the death of a member, to his family, or as he may otherwise direct. To provide for the relief of sick, unfortunate, and distressed members ; and to ameliorate the condition of humanity in all possible forms.

Subordinate lodges are composed of men of good social and moral standing in the community where they reside, and are admitted by ballot, on their petition voluntarily made, having passed a favorable medical examination ; applicants must be white male persons, between the age of eighteen and fifty years. Each subordinate lodge, may, of its own motion, provide for the social, moral and intellectual improvement of its members, for the relief of the sick, for the encouragement of members out of employment, and for helping each other in business.

A subordinate lodge was established in Whitingham, Dec. 15, 1877, located at the village of Jacksonville, with nine members, Wells P. Jones, Dictator ; and E. H. Stetson, Re-

porter. Since that time, forty members have been added, and the number at the present time is forty-two. The following named persons have been elected Dictator since its first organization, viz : Merritt W. Thayer, N. L. Stetson, E. L. Roberts, R. D. Brown, C. A. Briggs, W. O. Hunt and Lewis M. Stickney. And the Reporters have been, C. A. Briggs one year, W. O. Hunt one year, R. D. Brown one year, and E. H. Stetson, the rest of the time.

The order of Knights of Honor, is one of the most popular aud wide-spread secret organizations in the country ; it is ostensibly founded purely upon a principle of charity and fraternal beneficence, extending relief to the sick and unfortunate, or needy condition of its members alike, and is an organization expressly designed for mutual benefit. The lodge in this town has thus far prospered, even beyond the expectations of its founders ; nothing has occurred to check its progress, or disturb the mutual feelings of friendship amongst its members, or the designs of its organization. There has but one death occurred (that of W. O. Hunt) amongst its members during the eight years of its existence ; and but little sickness requiring relief from its beneficiary fund. But whenever assistance has been needed, it has been promptly given, showing by the acts of its members, that charity and benevolence is one of the principal objects for which it was established.

They have a splendid hall in the upper part of N. L. Stetson's store, fitted up with all the necessary apparatus for convenience of members at their meetings ; and is devoted expressly for their use. This lodge at the present time is in a prosperous and progressive condition, and bids fair to exert a healthy influence, and maintain and perpetuate the designs of its founders.

ABOUT A TOWN HOUSE.

In 1868, the matter of building a Town House was agitated ; and a town-meeting was holden on the 16th of May, of that

year, to take the matter into consideration. And after a long discussion, and several propositions by different individuals, it was finally voted to instruct the Selectmen to build a town house, and locate the same in the village of Sadawga, according to the proposition of Russell A. Stafford, on the south side of the highway, above the Methodist Church.

The people of the eastern section of the town, believing that no fair expression of opinion of the whole town, was given at this meeting, for the reason that a very large proportion of the voters in that section, were not present; not supposing the location of a town house would be acted upon at that meeting. They accordingly forthwith petitioned the Selectmen to call another meeting, to see if the town would rescind the vote of the 16th of May, 1868, to build a town house in the village of Sadawga. Under that petition a town-meeting was warned and holden on the 6th day of June 1868; and after thoroughly discussing the subject, before a very full meeting, it was voted to rescind the vote taken on the 16th of May last, in relation to building a town house on land of Mr. Stafford in the village of Sadawga.

At the same meeting it was voted to hold the town and freemen's meeting at the centre village; in accordance with the propositions of Henry Goodnow, H. N. Hix, John Gates, Reuben Winn, and Cushman Wilcox, to furnish a room for that purpose, and to furnish fuel and lights to accomodate the town while doing public business, free of cost to the town, till the first day of April, 1871.

This action of the town engendered some bad feeling of the leading men of the village of Sadawga, towards Jacksonville and the eastern section, that has not to this day been entirely allayed. Sadawga was then in its most prosperous condition, and its leaders foresaw the action of the town in relation to a town house in that locality, was a serious blow to their prospective ambition to make that place the exclusive centre of town business. It was subsequently agreed by vote of the town in 1879 that the town, and freemen's meetings, be hereafter held alternately at Sadawga and Jacksonville; at each place for the term of two years, and that Presidential Elections, also be held at each place alternately.

When this arrangement was finally agreed to, nothing came up in town-meeting, to engross the attention of the people to any great extent, till the Brattleboro and Bennington Railroad came up in 1883 on the question of bonding the town, to aid in the construction of a narrow gauge railroad from Brattleboro to Wilmington. This at once aroused the spirit of opposition in the villaga of Sadawga, and the whole western section, and a large proportion of the south-eastern quarter; and the proposition for bonding the town in any sum, was defeated in two or three successive town-meetings held expressly for that purpose.

The more intelligent portion of the opponents of the road, based their opposition ostensibly upon the principle of bonding towns for building a railroad being wrong in itself; by taxing the whole, for the benefit of a part. But it was plain to see, the real object was, that the village of Jacksonville would receive greater benefits by the enterprise, than Sadawga and the western section of the town. They conceded such a road would be a public benefit, and an advantage to the town; and this was really yielding the whole point. Admit such a road would be a public benefit, and the opposition upon principle, is without a shadow of foundation. Nothing in the future is more certain, than that the people of Whitingham will yet see the folly of blindness to their own interests, in opposing an enterprise of such incalculable benefit to the future of the town. Laying aside local strifes and local prejudices, it would seem that no intelligent man can reach any other conclusion than that such a railroad would be a permanent benefit to the town of Whitingham.

TOWN OFFICERS SINCE 1800.

The following is a list of the Town Clerks, Selectmen, and Treasurers, in the town of Whitingham, in each year since the commencement of the present century ;

TOWN CLERKS.

Jabez Foster, who was elected in 1799, held that office till 1818 ; Ephraim Smith, from 1818 to 1823 ; Emory Greenleaf, from 1823 to '27 ; Elliot Brown, from 1827 to '33; Rufus Chase, from 1833 to '37 ; Leonard Brown, from 1837 to '40 ; Hosea F. Ballou, from 1840 to '57 ; Hosea B. Ballou, from 1857 to the present time.

SELECTMEN.

1881, Jabez Foster, James Roberts, Baxter Hall.
1802, James Roberts, Baxter Hall, Joshua Coleman.
1803, James Roberts, Jabez Foster, Joshua Coleman.
1804, Abraham Chase, Amasa Shumway, Asahel Lamb.
1805, Amasa Shumway, Ambrose Stone, Amos Brown.
1806, Jabez Foster, Amos Brown, Samuel Parker.
1807, James Roberts, Amos Brown, John Otis, Jr.
1808, Jabez Foster, Amos Brown, Ambrose Stone.
1809, Jabez Foster, Ambrose Stone, Samuel Parker.
1810, Amos Brown, Joshua Coleman, John Wolcott.
1811, Amos Brown, Ambrose Stone, John Roberts.
1812, Amos Brown, Ambrose Stone, John Roberts.
1813, Ambrose Stone, Samuel Parker, Samuel Preston.
1814, Amos Brown, Nathan Green, Samuel Preston.
1815, John Roberts, Ambrose Stone, Levi Boyd.
1816, Samuel Parker, Amos Brown, Samuel Preston.
1817, Amos Brown, Samuel Parker, Abraham Chase.

1818, Amos Brown, Joseph Goodnow, Adin Thayer.
1819, John Roberts, Nathan Brown, Benjamin Reed.
1820, John Roberts, Nathan Brown, Benjamin Reed.
1821, John Roberts, Nathan Brown, Benjamin Reed.
1822, Amos Brown, Abraham Chase, Levi Boyd.
1823, Amos Brown, Elisha Putnam, Obed Foster.
1824, Amos Brown, Obed Foster, Elisha Putnam.
1825, John Roberts, Amos Brown, Rufus Carley.
1826, Amos Brown, Rufus Carley, Asa Godfrey.
1827, Amos Brown, Rufus Carley, Asa Godfrey.
1828, Asa Godfrey, Simeon Morse, Obed Foster.
1829, Asa Godfrey, Simeon Morse, William Bond, Jr.
1830, Joseph Goodnow, Abraham Chase, James White.
1831, Abraham Chase, James White, John Coleman.
1832, Ledyard Hayley, Simeon Morse, Lot Sibley.
1833, James White, Moses Morse, David Chase, 2d.
1834, James White, Moses Morse, Josiah Briggs.
1835, Moses Morse, David Chase, Josiah Briggs.
1836, William Bond, Amos Brown, Caleb Bemis.
1837, William Bond, Harvey Brown, Houghton Sawyer.
1838, William Bond, Harvey Brown, Obed Foster.
1839, Harvey Brown, Samuel Murdock, Josiah Kentfield.
1840, Josiah Kentfield, Asa Godfrey, Eli Green.
1841, Josiah Kentfield, Asa Godfrey, Eli Green.
1842, David Chase, Parley Starr, David Jillson.
March 23, 1842, chose Reuben Winn in place of David Chase, resigned.
1843, Reuben Winn, Parley Starr, David Jillson.
1844, Stephen Murdock, Rufus Brown, Baxter H. Newell.
1845, Stephen Murdock, Rufus Brown, Baxter H. Newell.
1846, Amos Brown, Rufus Carley, Jonathan S. Allen.
1847, Amos Brown, Rufus Carley, Elisha Putnam.
1848, Harvey Brown, Deliverance Wheeler, Josiah Briggs.
1849, Deliverance Wheeler, Harris Scott, Eli Green.
1850, Houghton Sawyer, Henry Corkins, Freeman Worden.
1851, Samuel Newell, Josiah Briggs, S. D. Faulkner.
1852, Josiah Briggs, Samuel Newell, Harris Scott.
1853, Samuel Newell, Lyman Kingsbury, Peter Holbrook.
1854, Samuel Newell, Alcander Preston, Augustus Farnsworth.

1855, Alcander Preston, Deliverance Wheeler, S. D. Faulkner.
1856, S. D. Faulkner, Deliverance Wheeler, David Jillson.
1857, Baxter H. Newell, Alfred Fuller, E. S. Allen.
1858, Baxter H. Newell, Alfred Fuller, E. S. Allen.
1859, Baxter H. Newell, E. S. Allen, H. B. Ballou.
1860, Baxter H. Newell, Alcander Preston, Theodore Leonard.
1861, Baxter H. Newell, S. D. Faulkner, Abraham Chase.
1862, Baxter H. Newell, S. D. Faulkner, Reuben Winn.
1863, Baxter H. Newell, Reuben Winn, Wm. H. Lynde.
1864, Reuben Winn, Wm. H. Lynde, E. K. Blanchard.
1865, Reuben Winn, Wm. H. Lynde, E. K. Blanchard.
1866, Wm. H. Lynde, George Porter, Thaddeus E. Wheeler.
1867, Wm. H. Lynde, George Porter, Thaddeus E. Wheeler.
1868, George Porter, A. J. Hull, C. B. Newell.
1869, George Porter, S. D. Faulkner, A. J. Hull.
1870, George Porter, Cyrus Temple, Truman Dix.
1871, George Porter, Thaddeus Wheeler, H. O. Gillett.
1872, George Porter, Thaddeus Weeeler, H. O. Gillett.
1873, Thaddeus Wheeler, R. D. Brown, E. L. Fuller.
1874, R. D. Brown, E. L. Fuller, Reuben Winn.
1875, R. D. Brown, Reuben Winn, E. L. Fuller.
1876, E. L. Roberts, F. G. Davis, M. B. Bishop.
1877, E. L. Roberts, M. B. Bishop, Wm. H. Lynde.
1878, E. L. Roberts, Wm. H. Lynde, C. B. Newell.
1879, R. D. Brown, A. J. Hull, E. J. Corkins.
1880, R. D. Brown, A. A. Wilder, H. G. Porter.
1881, R. D. Brown, A. A. Wilder, H. G. Porter.
1882, A. A. Wilder, H. G. Porter, E. L. Fuller.
1883, A. A. Wilder, Chas. A. Barker, H. C. Millington.
1884, A. A. Wilder, C. A. Barker, H. C. Millington.
1885, H. C. Millington, Chas. S. Goodnow, Cyrus W. Wheeler.
1886, Chas. S. Goodnow, H. A. Wheeler, E. J. Corkins.

TREASURERS.

Nathan Green from 1800 to 1804.

Hezekiah Whitney from 1805 to 1827.

Elisha Putnam from 1828 to 1830.
Ebenezer Waste from 1831 to 1832.
Nathan Brown from 1833 to 1835.
Nehemiah Sabin from 1836 to 1840.
Houghton Sawyer, from 1841 to 1848.
Hosea F. Ballou, from 1849 to 1855.
Amherst Lamb, from 1856 to 1862.
E. P. Hitchcock, from 1863 to 1865.
N. L. Stetson, from 1866 to 1878.
James W. Hatch, from 1879 to 1882.
Charles S. Chase, from 1883 to 1884.
James W. Hatch, from 1885 to 1886.

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The following is a list of the Representatives from the town of Whitingham, by which it will be seen that the town must have been organized for the purposes of representation in the Legislature of the State, as early as 1778, and Lieut. Silas Hamilton was elected and served for that year; but the records do not show that Whitingham was again represented till 1784.

1778 Silas Hamilton.
1784, Isaac Lyman.
1785, " "
1788, James Roberts.
1789, Isaac Lyman.
1790, " "
1791, Jabez Foster.
1792, " "
1793, " "
1794, James Roberts.
1795, Jabez Foster.
1796, " "
1797, James Roberts.
1798, " "
1799, " "
1800, " "
1801, " "
1802, " "
1803, " "
1804, Jabez Foster.
1805, " "
1806, James Roberts.
1807, " "
1808, Jabez Foster.
1809, " "
1810, Amos Brown.
1811, " "
1812, Not represented.
1813, Rufus Hosley.
1814, " "
1815, Ephraim Smith.
1816, " "
1817, Not represented.
1818, Amos Brown.

1819, John Roberts.
1820, " "
1821, " "
1822, " "
1823, " "
Also served as member of the Council.
1824, Amos Brown.
1825, Horace Roberts.
1826, " "
1827, Schuyler Murdock.
1828, Simeon Morse.
1829, " "
1830, Schuyler Murdock.
1831, Amos Brown.
1832, John Roberts.
1833, " "
1834, Nathan Brown.
1835, Obed Foster.
1836, " "
1837, William Bond, Jr.
1838, Obed Foster.
1839, James Roberts.
1840, Elisha Putnam.
1841, " "
1842, Harvey Brown.
1843, " "
1844, Rufus Brown.
1845, Hosea F. Ballou.
1846, Rufus Carley was elected, but did not attend on account of ill health.
1847, Waters Gillett.
1848, Eli Green.
1849, " "
1850, " "
1851, " "
1852, Parley Starr.
1853, Philander H. Sumner.
1854, Albert Sanford.
1855, Hosea F. Ballou.
1856, Parley Starr.
1857, David Jillson.
1858, Truman H. Streeter.
1859, Alfred Fuller.
1860, " "
1861, " "
1862, Elijah S. Allen.
1863, Waters Gillett.
1864, " "
1865, Amherst Lamb.
1866, " "
1867, Norris L. Stetson.
1868, " "
1869, Lucius P. Morey.
1870, " "
1871, " "
1872–3, Parley Starr.
1874–5, Wells P. Jones.
1876–7, Henry O. Gillett.
1878–9, Wells P. Jones.
1880–1, A. A. Butterfield.
1882–3, Amelius A. Wilder.
1884–5, Elijah S. Allen.

CASUALTIES AND SUICIDES.

On the third day of September, 1821, Abiathar Winn, a prominent and worthy citizen of Whitingham, a leading

member of the Baptist Church, was killed by the kick of a horse, while on his way to the September election of that year. He lived about twenty-four hours after the fatal blow.

Truman Dix, a noted citizen living in the southwest part of the town, was instantly killed on the 6th day of December, 1880, by slipping from a sled, heavily loaded with logs, the sled with its load running directly over him. He was 61 years of age, and a leader in the neighborhood where he lived.

On the 3d day of October, 1829, Samuel Martin, one of the pioneers of Jacksonville, and the man from whom the village derived the name, "Martin's Mills," committed suicide by cutting his throat. He was insane at the time, and had been a complete maniac for several days. Was a man that had done much for the village of Jacksonville, in its early stages, and his untimely death was a serious blow to its progress.

In 1830 Schuyler Murdock, one of the noted citizens of Whitingham, committed suicide at Montpelier, while a member of the Legislature, by cutting his throat with a razor. No cause could be assigned for the act, but was supposed to be the result of a temporary fit of insanity.

Dexter Brigham undoubtedly committed suicide at his brother John's in Whitingham, by taking poison. He died very suddenly in the night, November 4, 1832, and there was every reason to believe it was a case of suicide.

Albert Chase, a young man, in 1856, was the victim of suicide, cause supposed to be, temporary aberration, in consequence of the unrequited love of a young lady upon whom he had placed his affections and future hope of happiness.

Rufus Carley, an old man, and a life-long resident of Whitingham, took his own life by drowning, as was supposed, on the 2d day of November, 1870. He was found in the pond of Peter Holbrook, with whom he had been living for some time, under circumstances that left little doubt that he deliberately drowned himself. No cause could be assigned, except poor health and despondency.

John Pike, a young man some 35 years of age, committed suicide by hanging, about 30 years ago, no cause being

known ; it was supposed by some, that he was indirectly accused of burning a school-house.

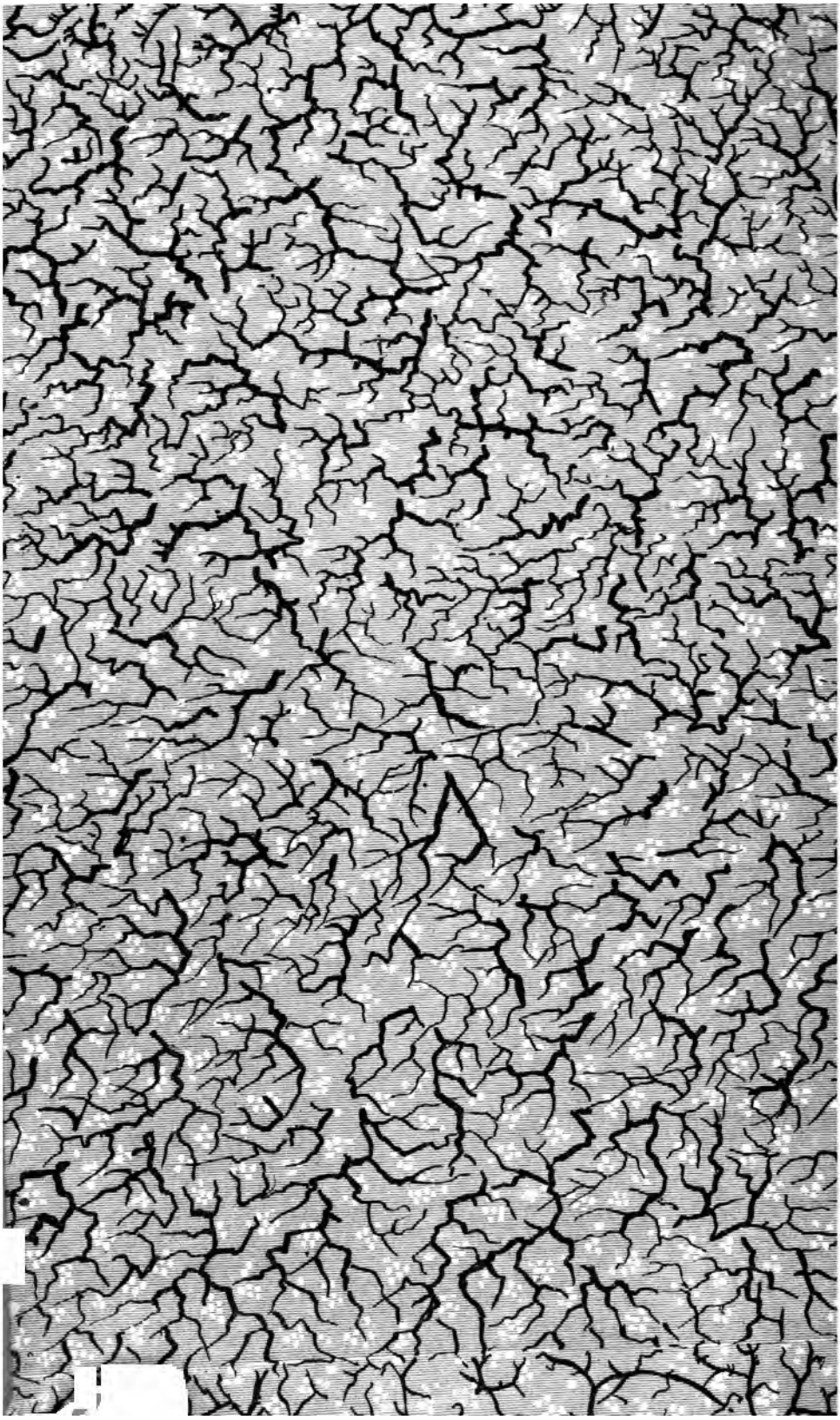
A son of Hiram Plumb hung himself in his father's barn about 15 years ago, no cause being known ; he was 16 or 17 years old at the time.

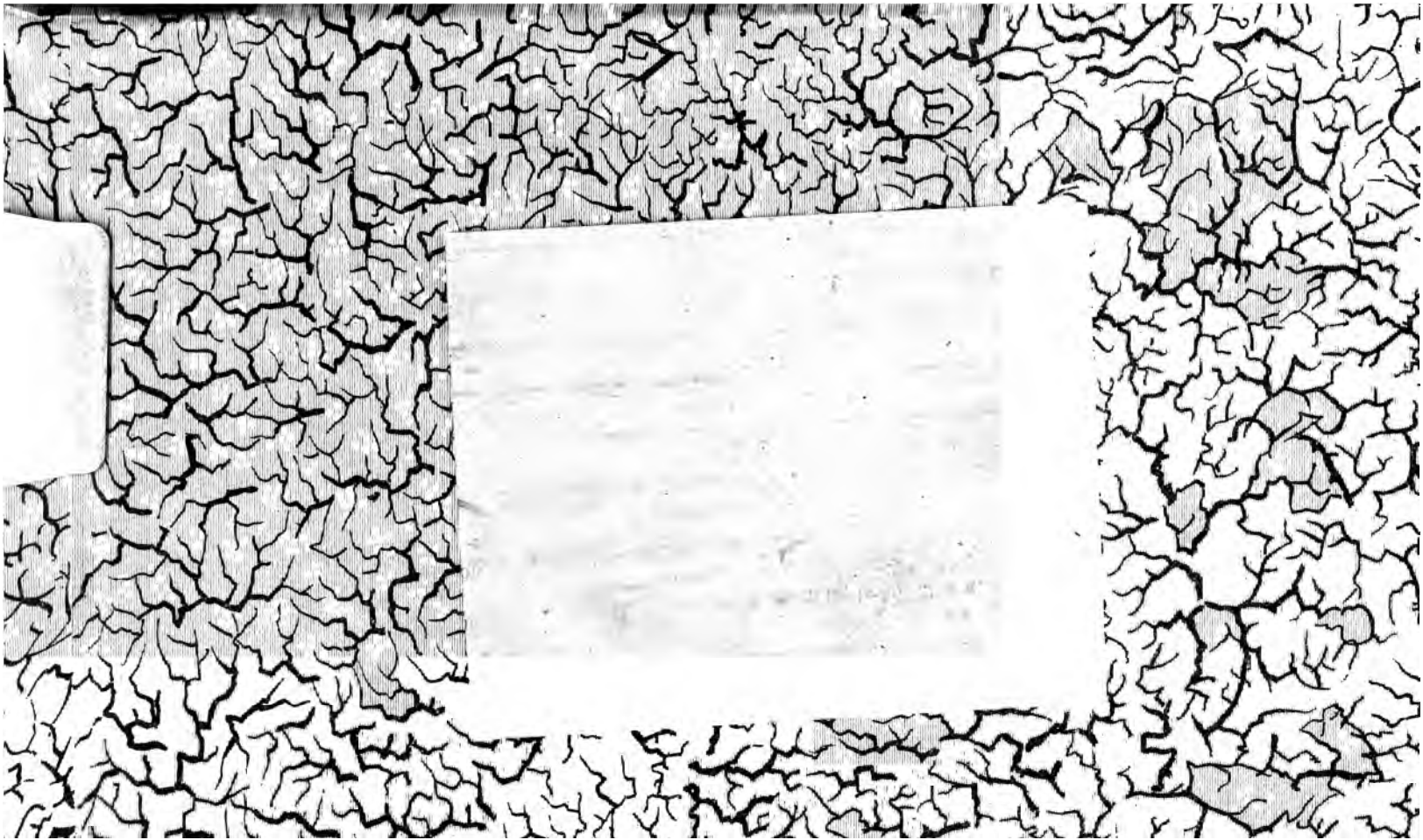
There may have been some other cases of suicide since the organization of the town, but the above are all of which we can find any accounts.

EARLY GRANTS OF LAND.

We have not in the foregoing pages. given an account in detail, of the different grants of land, by the authority of the State, to different persons, and at different times ; nor do we deem it important to the people of the present time. From 1780 to 1800, several different grants were made to different persons, covering the unoccupied lands in Whitingham.

That made to Silas Hamilton and others, in 1780, covered land unoccupied in the northeastern section ; that to Robert Bratton and others in 1781, the northwestern section; that to Amos Green and others in 1796, covering large tracts about the centre of the town, and what was formerly called "The Corners ;" and these were the principal grants that the first settlers gave attention to, and most of them held title to their lands under some of the grantees therein named. It may be that some of the settlers, previous to 1800, held title to their lands under some of the grantees on petition of Samuel Wells and others in 1782, and Jonathan Hunt and others in 1787, but the principal part of them came under the other grants. The grants of land by the authority of the State of New York were not recognized as of any validity by the early settlers of Whitingham, nor did they claim title to their lands under any grants except those given by the authority of this state.





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